N (c)
30

# HISTORY

OF THE

# MADRAS FOREST COLLEGE COIMBATORE

TOGETHER WITH AN APPENDIX GIVING THE HISTORY OF THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GASS FOREST MUSEUM.

COIMBATORE:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, CENTRAL JAIL.

1917.

A&M 210: History Of The Madras Forest College Coimbatore

TNFA - CBE
Centenary Library
15704

M.F.C.
0121

# HISTORY

OF THE

## MADRAS FOREST COLLEGE
## COIMBATORE

TOGETHER WITH AN APPENDIX GIVING THE HISTORY OF THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GASS FOREST MUSEUM.

COIMBATORE:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, CENTRAL JAIL.

1917.

# APPENDIX.

## HISTORY OF THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GASS FOREST MUSEUM, COIMBATORE.

While securing good specimens, called for by the Director of Economic Products for the Paris Exhibition, Imperial Institute and other places, it occurred to Mr. H. A. Gass the late Conservator of the old Southern Circle that samples of economic importance and other specimens of general interest should be collected in a systematic manner and carefully preserved in a central museum for exhibition as an educational factor.

Though a desire is natural among Forest Officers to collect specimens of interest in the surroundings with which they are familiar, yet, due to frequent changes and other reasons, there had been no regular collections till Mr. J. S. Gamble started a museum in Madras. But, after making considerable progress, it was entirely abandoned and all the collections were handed over to the Government Museum at Madras.

To make a fresh effort Mr. H. A. Gass decided to start a museum in Coimbatore, as being the Head-quarters of two important Forest Divisions, and that of a Circle of interesting forest charges, where several Forest Officers are always located and others constantly halt. A good sized upstairs room in the Conservator's Office building and its adjoining verandahs were made available for the purpose. In order not to be swamped with specimens, the collections were at first restricted to the Southern Circle. The nucleus of the museum consisted of a collection previously started by Mr. A. B. Jackson, and brought to Mr. Gass's notice by Mr. A. W. Lushington.

In April 1901 the matter was officially placed before the Board of Revenue who sanctioned (in B.P. Forest, 378 Mis., dated 14-6-1901) the opening of the Central museum in Coimbatore in a room in the Conservator's Office.

A circular was issued by the Conservator to all the Forest Officers, explaining the object and scope of the proposed institution in April 1901, the heads under which the collections would fall being also communicated. Specimens began to arrive in February 1902. Once the start was made great interest was evinced, that it was found possible to lay the foundation of a very interesting and instructive Forest museum which could eventually be extended to represent the whole Presidency.

So much progress in organisation and arrangement was made during March and April, that advantage was taken of the presence of H. E. Lord Ampthill in Coimbatore, to request him to pay a visit to the museum. He did so on 15-4-1902 and in entering his name in the Visitor's Book made the following remark. "I am delighted to have been the first visitor to the Forest museum and I shall feel interested to hear of the progress of the excellent and novel undertaking."

Since then, the museum has been open to the public for two and a half hours daily and a large number of visitors have inspected it.

To utilise the verandahs of the neighbouring District Forest Officer's Building a gang way was put up between the buildings and an ornamental garden was formed.

The available space was soon found to be inadequate and the office rooms of the District Forest Officers North and South Coimbatore were also taken up. By September 1902 the museum had become a most instructive institution.

Mr. R. D. Richmond, Assistant Conservator of Forests was then placad on special duty to arrange specimens and draw up a catalogue.

The specimens were grouped under 34 series, series 1—20 comprising specimens of timber and other minor economic forest products; ornaments, weapons, tools and traps and snares used by jungle tribes formed a fairly representative collection, grouped in four series. Several very good models of designs of rest houses, huts of hill tribes were constructed to type departmentally, and contributed. The models of rest houses are all capable of being taken to pieces for purposes of instruction. Working models of the Wire Rope and the dam at Mount Stuart were also made. Several trophies were kindly contributed by various gentlemen on the personal and repeated requests of Mr. H. A. Gass. Photographs of Forest scenery representative trees and Forest operations were specially taken for the museum, besides those contributed. To promote a feeling of *esprit de corps* photographs of the Conservators and of the District Forest Officers were also included among the collections. There were 1606 individual specimens exhibits at this period besides a few unnamed grasses and stems of large climbers.

(On 3-7-1902 Mr. Edgar Thurston, Superintendent, the Government Museum, Madras paid a visit and remarked in the Book : " I hope to gain much by exchanges hereafter and promise all possible help." The result was an exchange of a few Khonds axes for a magnificent entire sandal tree (heart wood alone) now standing in the Madras museum.)

Sir Frederic Nicholson paid a visit on 9-10-1902 and noted : " As an educational adjunct to the proposed Forest School it should be highly valuable. Proposals to establish a Forest Training School for Deputy Rangers and Foresters had already been sent up to the Board of Revenue (The Forest Training School was started on the 1st April 1905.)

Specimens were continually being received and the available space was found too small for the continual influx of contributions.

When Mr. C. J. Weir visited the Museum on 17-11-1904, he entered in the Visitor's Book " I have found the museum most interesting and instructive, but there is a difficulty about space and it is desirable that additional accomodation be provided."

The Government sanctioned an estimate amounting to Rs. 7,600, for constructing a building for the Forest Museum at Coimbatore in G.O. No. 670 W., dated 24-3-1905.

The appointment of a Curator for the museum from 1-4-1905, was also sanctioned at the time.

Mr. H. Bradley, C.S.I., visited the museum on 19-6-1905 and remarked " The Museum is growing fast and new buildings are badly wanted."

The construction of the new building was commenced in April 1905 and completed in June 1906, at a total cost of Rs. 8,860.

The garden was in the mean time keeping pace with the growth of the Museum. Several Pithe-colobium saman planted for shade were thoroughly established as well as a row of Cocos nucifera. A few vegetables and flowers were also grown and a small revenue was realised by their sale.

Mr. H. A. Gass who saw the commencement of the building retired from service on the 12th September 1905, before it was completed and gave over charge to Mr. F. A. Lodge.

The Government in its G.O. No. 896 Rev., dated 18-9-1905, passed the following order.

'In recognition of the fact that the Establishment of the Forest Museum at Coimbatore was due to the personal initiative of Mr. H. A. Gass and that its present successful development is due to the energetic interest which he has taken in it, during the tenure of his office as Conservator of Forests in the Southern Circle, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the Museum be hereafter known as " The Gass Forest Museum." '

After the completion of the new Building the catalogue was revised in accordance with the new arrangement of the specimens. The latter were grouped in 14 series in the revised catalogue, all economic products being included under

one series " Forest Products ". At that time 358 different species of economic products were exhibited. There were in addition 855 specimens in the remaining thirteen series. Sections of teak and rose-wood the former from a tree about 455 years old and the latter from a tree 410 years old were kindly presented by the Cochin State. These specimens have been made more instructive by marking the growth of successive years and giving the dates of the reigns of English sovereigns and the Principal Indian Events at corresponding ages.

A good elephant skeleton has been fitted together and set up in a prominent position by the special Veterinary Inspector attached to the Forest Department.

The collection of timber specimens forms a magnificent group, notes on the more important species being given on printed cards.

The various forest operations are illustrated by working models. In the revised catalogue an alphabetical index for the Forest Products has been added.

A general descriptive register has also been opened for all available notes and reports on experiments regarding the economic products. This will form a Ledger of information to be printed when enough information has been gathered.

Towards the end of 1905, Mr. T. N. Hearsey deposited 60 boxes of moths and butterflies. These practically formed part of Museum collections at the time. He also presented a fairly representative collection of South Indian birds eggs and a collection of Heads.

H. E. Sir Arthur Lawley opened the new Museum on 5-9-1906. He has recorded the following remark in the Visitor's Book. " I esteem it a great privilege to have been asked to open the Gass Museum. I wish long life and success to its founder and I hope that every member of the Forest Department will be animated by the same spirit so that the Museum may grow as the years go by." He also remarked then that the building was already full and an extension would shortly be required.

Though the original idea was to vacate the office rooms of the Conservator and the District Forest Officers hitherto utilised, it was found that after the arrangement of the exhibits, another building nearly as large would be necessary to show off the specimens to best advantage, and it was consequently not possible to spare more than one of the original rooms for the District Forest Officers.

Owing to want of accomodation, contributions were no longer specially asked for. In fact many of the later receipts had to be stored away for want of accomodation nor could much improvement be made in the arrangement of exhibits, although many new ideas suggested themselves as experience was gained.

The Museum garden continued to grow steadily. Seeds of several Exotic species as experiments were sown in the garden during 1906 and subsequent years. The species that have since established themselves well are Peltophorum ferrigineum, Parkia biglandulosa, Cedrela odorata & Swietenia Mahogani. The biggest of the two latter species are 57′-8″ & 35′-10″ respectively. These were transplanted in September 1906. Cedrela has seeded for the last two years. Swietenia Mahogani bore flowers this year but fruit has not formed. Peltophorum is growing almost like indigenous species.

Mr. Eardley Wilmot, Inspector-General of Forests paid a visit to the Museum on 8-12-1907, during his tour in this Presidency. He recorded his opinion in a paragraph in his note on Inspection of the Madras Forests as follows :—

" I have found at Coimbatore a museum of Forest Products overflowing the available accommodation on all sides and a Forest School for Lower Subordinates in which good work was being done. I must express my admiration of the contents and arrangements of the Museum. I consider it superior to that at the Imperial College at Dehra Dun, but the reason for this superiority need not here be discussed ; it will be sufficient to accept the fact that the zeal and energy of the Local Forest Officers have created an institution which must be of the greatest value to scientific and economic Forestry."

H. E. Sir Arthur Lawley took great interest in the institution and visited it thrice during his tenure of Office.

Contributions were made to Exhibitions on four occasions. A collection of fibres contributed to the Madras Industrial Exhibition in 1903, and Timber specimens and economic products sent to the Cannanore Exhibition in 1907 which won silver medals. Economic products were forwarded to the Koilpatti Exhibition in 1907 and models and photographs to the Franco British Exhibition in 1908.

At the beginning of 1908 an Oil Engine 2½ B.H.P. was installed for pumping water for use of the garden at a total cost of Rs. 1,100. It has worked very satisfactorily since 1908 and is still in excellent order.

Since 1905 Mr. C. E. C. Fischer, Deputy Conservator of Forests has contributed very largely to the herbarium collections. During 1910-1911 he sent nearly 1,500 sheets of specimens, the identification of which has been verified by the Director of Botanical Survey. Additions are annually made to this collection, specimens are also regularly contributed from various Forest Divisions.

The Government sanctioned the purchase of Mr. T. N. Hearsey's entomological collections for Rs. 500 in G.O. Mis. 554 Rev., dated 1-3-1909. He was placed on special duty to arrange them in sixty glass fronted boxes.

H. E. Lord Carmichael paid a visit on 4th March 1912

The Hon'ble Sir John Atkinson, K.C.S.I. on 19th July 1912, and

Mr. Beadon Bryant, C.S.I., Inspector-General of Forests on 17th January 1913.

H. E. Lord Pentland visited the Museum on 9th April 1913 when he remarked in the Visitor's Book "A most interesting but too short a visit."

Details of number of Visitors, specimens received and money realised by garden sales are given separately. Several seedlings were raised in the garden and kept ready for planting in the Forest College Site.

In Febraury 1907, a proposal was made to the Executive Engineer by the Conservator of Forests to extend the Museum by the addition of another building as large as the present one, and to construct a building for the Forest Training School by acquiring a portion of the land to the south of the Museum.

Though the construction of an extension to the Museum was sanctioned at Rs. 8,000 it was not carried out and the school itself was abolished in G.O. 1497 Rev., dated 28th May 1908.

E

Subsequently in December 1907 immediately after the visit of the Inspector-General of Forests, Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E., Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle submitted proposals regarding the great necessity of opening a Forest College for training Rangers and building the College in the vicinity of the Agricultural College. This project affected the construction of an extension to the present Museum and the latter scheme was consequently abandoned in January 1908.

Now that the Madras Forest College has been established the Gass Museum will form an integral part of the new College, and is at present awaiting removal to its new conspicious habitation, where it has undoubtedly a great future before it.

| Year. | Number of Visitors. | Number of specimens contributed. | Revenue realised from the Garden. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | RS. | |
| 1905–1906 ... | 1,000 | 1100 in all from the beginning. | ...... | |
| 1906–1907 ... | 7,990 | ? | ? | |
| 1907–1908 ... | 11,484 | 270 | ? | |
| 1908–1909 ... | 6,339 | 669 | ...... | |
| 1909–1910 ... | 7,362 | 625 | 162 | (a) Number of Visitors fell off owing to Plague. |
| 1910–1911 (a) ... | 7,308 | 237 | 137 | |
| 1911–1912 ... | 4,463 | 120 | 119 | |
| 1912–1913 ... | 7,044 | 250 | 107 | |
| 1913–1914 ... | 5,411 | ? | ? | |

20-9-1914.

(Sd). C. SRINIVASA RAO,
*Provincial Instructor,*
*Madras Forest College.*

# HISTORY OF THE MADRAS FOREST COLLEGE.

The earliest official record of the inception of the Madras Forest College is to be found in a letter dated 11th December 1907 from Mr. F. A. Lodge, Conservator of Forests at Coimbatore. It had been decided to construct there a special building for the Forest School for Deputy Rangers and Foresters that had for some years previously been of excellent service to the Department in spite of the very limited quarters and equipment that were available for it in the compound of the Conservator's Office. In connection with this proposal Mr. Lodge urged that the opportunity should be taken to convert this School into a College for the Ranger Class and for this purpose to construct a suitable and appropriate building near the Agricultural College three miles north of Coimbatore.

In this letter, now of historic interest, Mr. Lodge remarked "Before long it will be found that the Dehra Dun College cannot take in enough men to supply the needs of all India; it will then be necessary to open a separate College for Southern India Rangers; to which men from Madras, Mysore, Travancore, Hyderabad, Bombay and owners of private forests can be sent for their training and no more suitable position for such a College can be found than the vicinity of the Agricultural College shortly to be opened near Coimbatore.

"Madras has its own Engineering College and ought to have its own Forest College; it will have it in time, and this, I submit, is the time to make a commencement.

"It is perhaps beyond my province to look further than the Forest College, but it seems to me that the natural sequence of the existence of two Colleges dealing with the production of raw material is the establishment of a third College dealing with the conversion and utilization of the raw material, and that to make the scheme perfect an industrial College should be added.

"Since commencing this letter, I have had the advantage of discussing my proposal with the Inspector-General of Forests to the Government of India who is of opinion that Local Governments should arrange for the training of their own Rangers, and for their own Forest Research Institutes.

"There can be no doubt that with the head of the department holding such views Forest Colleges will before long be opened in various parts of India; Madras has led the way in many things, why should not the institution of a Forest College for Rangers be added to the list?"

Mr. Lodge's proposal was strongly supported by the Inspector-General of Forests, Mr. St. H. Eardley-Wilmot who fortunately was touring in the Presidency at the time, and was able to lend to the scheme the advantage of sound arguments based on an unrivalled forest experience under the Government of India combined with a lately acquired first-hand knowledge of the local requirements of Madras. The Inspector-General further recommended that a Forest Research Institute should be combined with the College, and that the whole should be under the charge of a separate additional Conservator.

The Board of Revenue in its letter to Government cordially supporting these proposals remarked: "The Board has had the advantage of discussing the question fully with the Inspector-General of Forests during his recent tour in the Presidency, and the extracts which he has kindly furnished from his inspection note show how strongly he endorses Mr. Lodge's proposal. The reasons urged by Messrs. Lodge and Eardley-Wilmot for the creation of a separate Forest College for this Presidency are, in the opinion of the Board, entirely convincing and it is unnecessary to reiterate them. There can be no question that the most suitable situation for the College would be at Coimbatore in the vicinity of the Agricultural College. The College would train as Rangers not only men required for the Government Forests but also those needed by the Native States and the large Zamindars of Southern India.

"There would also be in connection with the College a vernacular school for training Guards and Foresters.

"The Forest Member has inspected the ground round the Agricultural College in company with the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Division, the Principal of the Agricultural College, and the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, in order to select a suitable site for the Forest College. * * * The Forest Member found a suitable site immediately to the north of the Agricultural farm and about half a mile away from the Agricultural College. It lies high and is well drained. Probably about 150 acres of land would be required. The Executive Engineer, who was given an idea of the buildings which would be required including quarters for the Professors, the Museum, etc., has furnished a block plan and an approximate estimate amounting to Rs. 7½ lakhs; but, as he points out, a considerable saving could be effected if the construction of the buildings were taken in hand soon after the completion of the Agricultural College, so that the tramway lines, limekilns and other plant used in building the latter could be made use of."

Incidentally it may be remarked that the site selected consisted of Black cotton soil. The choice has greatly increased the cost of the project without materially contributing to the convenience and comfort of the inmates of the College apart from advantages contingent on proximity to the Agricultural College. The selection was the more unfortunate, as there were red soil lands available close to the present site, as well as on the other side of and adjoining Coimbatore.

For reasons that will be subsequently apparent the total cost of the buildings with equipment has risen to Rs. 10,61,050.

The Government accepted in principle the Board's proposals, but enquired what was meant by Forest Research. The Forest Member of the Board in reply after consulting the Conservators referred to Mr. Eardley-Wilmot's note on this subject, but Government in June 1908 was not convinced of the necessity for making any provision for the purpose although the remainder of the project, including quarters for the Principal and for the two European Instructors, was approved of. The Government of India, who had in the meantime been approached, accorded their warm support to the scheme and suggested that the College should be started sooner than had been anticipated. The Board thereupon proposed that a commencement should be made in June 1909 by temporarily occupying the vacant buildings of the Agricultural College at Saidapet outside Madras Town, and a Government Order to that effect subsequently issued. However on a protest from two Conservators (Messrs. Brasier and Lodge) against starting work at Saidapet (with no suitable forests anywhere in the vicinity) and against attempting to open the College before a nucleus of the Staff was available, the Government directed that the opening should be postponed till June 1910. In their letter dated 4th May 1909 the Government of India concurred with this view. In August 1909 the Madras Government accorded formal sanction for constructing a Forest College at Coimbatore with subsidiary buildings at an approximate cost of 5 lakhs including the site. In November 1909 progress was apparently hanging fire and Mr. Lodge wrote to ask if the College was actually to be opened in June of the following year. For the next 18 months the urgency of opening the College in June 1910 appears to have been rather lost sight of, as the correspondence during this period was mainly devoted to a rather desultory discussion on the merits of acquiring the municipal night soil depot. However in June 1911 the estimate for the project was again put forward this time by the Department of Public Works who included in the scheme a Principal's Bungalow at Rs 28,020 and Rs. 1,000 for a telephone system. In the meantime much correspondence had resulted between the Board and Conservators as to the interior working of the College. One Conservator had suggested that the stipend proposed for students, *i.e.*, Rs. 24 was too high—it is noteworthy that it is proposed at the present time to raise the minimum to Rs. 50 for all students. In February 1910 the Board, in response to a requisition from Government, submitted a draft of proposed rules for the Forest College. These were almost wholly based on those in force at Dehra Dun. They were duly recorded. In July 1910 a new development saw the light in the shape of a proposal from the Government of

India, on behalf of the Bombay Government, that Bombay students should be trained at the Coimbatore College. The suggestion was not very warmly received by the Board of Revenue, and the Madras Government sent a somewhat guarded reply to Bombay, who responded by the somewhat startling proposal that instead of Coimbatore Dharwar should be the site of the South Indian Forest College. Messrs. Lodge, Peake and P. M. Lushington strongly opposed the new scheme, and at considerable length warmly advocated the carrying out of the original idea. Their letters in effect constitute a well-reasoned justification for the *raison d'être* of the Madras Forest College. The Madras Government concurred, and reported to the Government of India that they were unable to regard the proposal as desirable in the interests of the Madras Presidency, but were prepared to accept seven Bombay students annually on certain conditions. Nothing further on the subject appears to have been heard from Bombay who thereafter continued to train Rangers at Dehra Dun.

Subsequently progress in the general scheme came to a stop, for the reason that the Secretary of State, in view of the reorganisation of the Provincial Service recently sanctioned, was unconvinced of the justification for a large additional expenditure on Establishment at that period. On receipt of this decision the D.P.W. sold off the machinery and material that had been transferred from the Agricultural College (then just finished) to the Forest College site. When eventually in the latter part of 1911 it was decided to proceed with the Forest College Scheme, fresh machinery had to be purchased and new sheds built for housing it.

Towards the close of that year Mr. C. E. C. Fischer was posted to the South Coimbatore Forest Division in order to push on the preliminary work of opening the College. It was intended to start in the Old Municipal Hospital on 2nd February 1912 with Mr. Fischer as Principal. Mr. Lodge was at the time placed on Special duty for the purpose of organising the main principles of working and of purchasing the necessary equipment. His letter dated 13th November 1911 affords a lucid *exposé* of the immediate requirements with an intelligent anticipation of future eventualities. Mr. V. Subramania Iyer, who had had several years experience on the Dehra Staff, was deputed as Mr. Lodge's assistant. In the following March Government ordered that the opening of the College should be postponed till 1st July 1912 and sanctioned the Clerical and Menial Establishment.

Mr. F. L. C. Cowley-Brown was then appointed Principal with the following Staff:—

Mr. V. Subramania Iyer, M.A., } *Instructors* with
Mr. K. R Venkataramana Iyer., }
Mr. C. Sreenivasa Rao, B.A., Curator of the Gass Forest Museum as Lecturer in Botany.

During the month of June the Staff joined and were fully occupied with completing the purchase of apparatus and instruments, furnishing the Hostel for which a private House had been hired, and in designing and carrying out extensive alterations in the Hostel including the provision of domestic offices, kitchens and tent go-down. On the 1st July 1912, thirty one students, all of them already serving as Rangers or Deputy Rangers on the Madras list, joined and the Madras Forest College nearly five years after its first inception started on its career—to prove it is confidently anticipated an abiding influence for good on the fortunes and prosperity of the Forests of Southern India.

During the 1st two years of the College the terms and touring were divided roughly as follows:—

*Rains Term at Head-quarters.*—July 1st to September 15th.

*Cold Weather Tour.*—September 15th to March 6th 1913.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Do.* | September 15th to October 30th—Anamalais. |
| *Do.* | November 1st to December 20th—South Malabar. |
| *Do.* | January 16th to 26th January 1913—Bolampatti. |
| *Do.* | February 6th to March 1st—Tinnevelly. |
| *Do.* | 2nd March to 6th March—Ayalur, (Madura.) |
| *Do.* | March 12th to April 8th—Recess. |

*Nilgiris Tour.*—May and June.

*Summer Term at Head-Quarters.*—June.

*Rains Term at Head-Quarters.*—July 1st 1913—September 20th Both Divns.

*Cold Weather Tour.*—September 21st—February 24th.

*Junior Division.*—September 21st to October 31st—South Coimbatore, Anamalais.

*Do.* November 1st to December 20th—South Malabar.

*Do.* January 3rd to January 23rd—Bolampatti.

*Do.* January 24th to January 27th—Trichinopoly.

*Do.* January 30th to February 22nd—Tinnevelly.

*Senior Division.*—September 21st to October 10th—Polur, South Vellore.

*Do.* October 11th to October 15th—Chittoor.

*Do.* October 16th to October 28th—East Cuddapah.

*Do.* October 30th to November 10th—Bellary.

*Do.* November 13th to December 1st—Kurnool, South and West.

*Do.* December 3rd to December 18th—Waltair and Ganjam.

*Do.* Juunary 3rd 1914 to January 22nd 1914—Bolampatti.

*Do.* January 25th to February 22nd—Salem (Sannyasimalai, Pennagaram, Denkannikotah, Hogayanakal and Jowlagiri.)

*Spring Term at Head-guarters.*—March 1914—Issue of the 1st Senior Division.

*Recess.*—April.

*Nilgiris Tour.*—May 1st to June 30th.

The first year of the College was not without special difficulties and disabilities. Experience had to be paid for often at the expense of the health and comfort of staff and students—especially on tour and during change of camp. But the invaluable knowledge so gained will be all to the benefit of future students and will insure immunity from many of the troubles that beset their predecessors.

Details as to the work and experiences of the first year of the college are to be found in the 1912-13 Administration Report, from which the following extracts are perhaps of interest.

"Towards the end of this (the cold weather tour) the Division as a whole suffered severely from ill-health so much so that at Ayalur it was necessary to abandon the rest of the tour and on return to Head-quarters the Principal found it advisable to close the college and to advance the date of the vacation by three weeks.

* * * * *

"On April 9th shortly before the commencement of the Hill Tour Term the foundation stone of the New College was laid by His Excellency the Governor in the presence of a large and representative assembly of Forest and other Officers and the General public. The President of the Board of Vistors and the permanent Principal were unavoidably absent, but Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E., (Member of the Board of Visitors and Conservator of Forests) in an address to his Excellency ably summarised the history and present position of Forest Policy in this Presidency, and demonstrated the justification of the large expenditure incurred on the New Forest College.

* * * * *

"The College in spite of considerable difficulties, inseparable from the starting of a novel Institution has had on the whole a successful year. The temporary and somewhat cramped accomodation available and the very circumscribed environment have necessarily resulted in a considerable degree of discomfort and even of hardship, which in all cases has been met in a cheerful and uncomplaining spirit. After the arrival of the staff, the conversion of the old Hospital into a temporary College and of private house into a temporary Hostel involved considerable structural alterations, and a large expenditure of time and thought. In this matter,

as well as in arranging for furniture and fixings, Mr. Subramania Iyer has displayed the knowledge, capacity, and assidity that have characterised his performance of the multifarious duties and details devolving upon him as House Tutor. Similarly, at the close of the year Mr. Venkatarama Iyer has been of great assistance in obtaining, and retaining, in spite of more than passive obstruction, the building originally ear-marked for the 2nd Hostel.

"It was soon realised that the 1st Hostel was insufficient for the accomodation of the whole Division. Eight students were therefore allowed to live at the Y.M.C.A. Hostel; but the arrangement owing to the local disabilities did not work very satisfactorily, and these students have been replaced in No. 1 Hostel, where owing to the casualities of the year, there is now more accomodation.

"The changing of camp on tour has involed a not inconsiderable amount of discomfort—and even loss—to the students. Permanent camps for some of which estimates have been submitted, in various parts of the Presidency are a real necessity to ensure during touring the maximum of benefit with the minimum of hardship. The difficulties have not been lessened by a peculiarly searching scrutiny of touring expenditure, followed by orders of recovery of what might not unreasonably have been debited to Government.

"As regards Field work on tour the aim has been to combine with the educational requirements of the College the execution of such projects and works as would be of most benefit to the District Forest Officers concerned. It has been laid down as a principle that all such undertakings are to be completely worked out and subsequently finished with, if necessary, a map or plate—or at least a formal record of results.

* * * * *

"Both in Head-quarters and in Camp Sanitation has been made a feature of the first importance, and the latrines would perhaps bear comparison with those of any educational Institution of the same status.

"The raising of the standard of efficiency in this direction has resulted in passive resistance and partial boycott by the Sweeper fraternity. This class, at all times hard to obtain in Coimbatore, and consequently able to command their own terms, found little inducements in a service combating from the outset their vested interests in sloth and inefficiency. The problem always difficult has been rendered still more acute by the decision of the Accounts Department, that these College Servants were not eligible for batta; and the recent order of the Accountant-General, that the batta already drawn for many months past is to be immediately refunded, threatens to precipitate a serious crisis. It has needed all the circumspection of the House Tutor to partially and temporarily convince the menials that the increase of pay sanctioned by Government is an adequate compensation; and the victory is by no means assured yet.

* * * * *

"In response to a notice issued by Mr. A. W. Lushington a sum of Rs. 500 was collected during the year from Forest Officers as a Memorial to the late Charles Brasier. This sum has been accepted by the Board of Visitors as a capital Fund of which the interest is to be awarded annually to the Student likely to make the best practical Forest Officer.

* * * * *

"Physically the students for the most part are a well set up body of young men. They have been greatly handicapped by the lack of facilities for games. Their numbers were small: it was difficult to procure space: owing to the exigencies of the first year of touring the time in Head-quarters was rather cut up: the initial expenses were naturally heavy, and except for a grant of Rs. 100 funds had to be provided entirely from individual contributions. Consequently Athletics during the past year have rather languished. But with the advent of the Junior Division and the addition of an Imperial Instructor the out look is now much brighter.

* * * * *

"The work of the year has been heavy for all members of the staff. It has been accentuated by the large number of necessary buildings and projects at the new site which had been omitted from the final estimates, and for the construction or preparation of which justification had to be shown and sanction obtained, *e.g.*, quarters for Clerks, Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Havildars, etc., Gymnasium, Carpenter's shop, Carriage Shed, Athletic Pavilion and Ground, and electric lighting of the buildings, etc. The labour of preparing most of these estimates with their designs devolved on the Provincial Instructors, and in particular, on Mr. Venkataramana Ayyar. This work is far from complete yet, and it is not improbable that in the near future a Post and Telegraph Office, Hospital, Police Station, and School, all common to the Forest and Agricultural Colleges, will be required.

* * * * *

"The duties and scope of the Superior Staff cover a much larger field than that of simple lecturing. For example the preparation of the very extensive and detailed estimates for furniture and fittings demanded by the Department of Public Works was carried out by all the Officers in consultation: the laying out of avenue and the arboretum has devolved on the III Provincial Instructor, etc., etc.

* * * * *

"During the year the Principal was deputed to visit the Imperial Forest College at Dehra Dun and submitted to the Forest Commissioner detailed notes and recommendations, the majority of which were given effect to. The School of Military Engineering in Bangalore was visited by the Second Provincial Instructor, with beneficial results to the College Engineering Course.

* * * * *

"It would be unbecoming to conclude the First Administration Report of the Madras Forest College without regarding the great and ready assistance received from Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E., at all times he has been prepared to place at the service of the College his experience and advice in case of difficulty or doubt.

"Of especial value has been his first hand knowledge of the history of the negotiations leading up to the starting of the College, for the very inception of which he has been mainly responsible. Before the Principal arrived the greater part of the spade work had already been undertaken and completed by Mr. Lodge with the assistance of Messrs. Fischer and Subramania Ayyar."

It will be convenient and suitable to place on record here the speeches of Mr. Lodge and His Excellency the Governor at the laying of the Foundation Stone on April 9th 1913.

Mr. Lodge, in requesting His Excellency to lay the foundation stone said, "Your Excellency—the privilege of addressing Your Excellency in this place belongs to the Hon'ble Mr. Horne who most unfortunately is precluded by illness from being present. I beg to tender the thanks of the officers of the Madras Forest Department to Your Excellency for having kindly consented to honour this occasion with your presence and to connect your name with the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Madras Forest College. In all civilized countries, it is recognised that it is necessary for the welfare of the country that a certain portion of its surface should be clad with Forests, some of which are required for the protection of the sources of water supply, others for the production of building material, agricultural implements or fuel, others for the fixation of moving sands, for breaking the force of hot weather winds and for miscellaneous purposes, too numerous to quote in detail. Following naturally on the necessity for the existence of Forest comes the necessity for protecting and managing them to the best advantage. The farmer sows his wheat, or cholam, or paddy, and watches it carefully for a few months until it is ready to be harvested; but the Forest crop does not mature in a few months; it has to be watched and tended for many years during which various operations for its protection and improvement are required. A mistake in the treatment of a Forest is not, as a rule, noticeable to the general

public as soon as it is committed, and hence the belief that no special training is required for Forest Officers is by no means uncommon, but a mistake in Forest management may have far reaching results; a hillside clothed with forest growth may gradually be denuded from year to year, the difference will be hardly noticeable, but in twenty years time the whole forest may have disappeared and the hill will soon follow the forest. One has only to turn to other countries to see the results of allowing the forest to disappear. In France millions of francs are spent annually on reafforesting the mountain slopes which, in days gone by, were denuded of their growth through ignorance, carelessness or greed. Still nearer to us lies the striking example of Mauritius, an island covering only 720 square miles or less than an averaged-sized taluk in a Madras revenue district. A few years ago, as a result of the uncontrolled removal of the forest growth, Mauritius had to raise £ 100,000 in order to reafforest certain portions of its hills. It would be a national catastrophe if artificial reafforestation on such a scale become necessary in any part of India, and therefore trained men are necessary to protect and manage the existing forests. The forest service is divided into three branches, Imperial, Provincial and Subordinate. The Imperial officers receive their training in Europe; officers of the other branches are trained in India, the Dehra Dun Forest College founded in 1878 has hitherto been the centre through which all Madras trained Provincial and Subordinate officers have passed, but for Madras Dehra Dun has always had certain drawbacks. Its distance from Madras deters many men from seeking training there and so reduces the field from which suitable candidates can be selected. The practical training at Dehra takes place largely in pine forests and forests of the temperate and sub-tropical zones, and entirely under climatic conditions which are foreign to Madras Apart from these drawbacks, the increased demand for trained Forest Rangers has so swollen the classes at Dehra Dun, that students cannot receive the individual attention which is so necessary. The creation of a Forest College in the Madras Presidency will relieve the pressure on Dehra Dun, enable students to receive their training in the class of forest on which they subsequently work and increase the number of candidates from whom the Forest Rangers of the future will be selected. The proposal to establish a Forest College in Coimbatore first saw the light in December 1907. Like many of the seedlings in the forests it made a fair start, but died down during an unfavourable season. Its roots, however, had become established and in due course it pushed up a new leader which now bids fair to develop into a strong healthy tree. The first class of embryo Rangers joined the College at the commencement of July 1912, temporary accomodation being found in the town and under the able guidance of Mr. Cowley-Brown whose absence to-day owing to illness contracted in the execution of his duty we deeply regret. Considerable progress has already been made in their training. From next July there will be two classes at the College and the full strength of the staff sanctioned will be required in order to carry on the work in a satisfactory manner. We have been fortunate in securing a compact block of land on which to erect the various buildings required for the College, leaving room for expansion to meet the ever expanding needs of the department. The buildings at present sanctioned an under construction provide accomodation for most of the staff for the Gass Forest Museum and in the main building the Foundation Stone of which Your Excellency is about to lay for the necessary Lecture Rooms and Offices, etc., for the Instructors and two classes of students. It was originally proposed to provide accomodation for the important work of Forest Research but this proposal has been, temporarily—I hope abandoned. The Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun is overworked and unable to devote sufficient attention to local requirements, therefore in order to develop resources of Madras as rapidly as possible, it will probably be found advisable before long to make arrangement for the carrying out of local research work by the local officers, it is hoped that the training in forest management which will be available at this College will be taken advantage of by the rulers of Native States, by zamindars and other landlords who will thus be able to obtain trained officers to protect and work their forests, and the result of improving the forest management throughout the Presidency will tend towards the objects which we all have in view, namely, the welfare of the country in which we serve."

## HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

At the conclusion of Mr. Lodge's speech, His Excellency made the following reply :—

"Mr. Lodge, Members of the Board of Visitors, Ladies and Gentlemen,— Let me first of all say how greatly I regret the absence of Mr. Horne, the Commissioner of Forests and Mr. Cowley-Brown, the Principal of the College. You will join me, I am sure, in particularly regretting the cause of their absence and let me add a hope, and it is no doubt your hope, as well as mine that they may quickly shake off the unfortunate attacks of fever from which they have been suffering. I understand that Mr. Lodge, who in Mr. Horne's absence has just given us the interesting address we have heard on the methods of forestry and the necessity of scientific training, is to some extent the originator of the idea that a Forest College to supplement the Dehra Dun is necessary in South India, it is therefore all the more appropriate that the duty of representing those who are absent to-day should have happened to fall to him. If any defence were required of the high importance to this Presidency of prudent forest administration, it would be found in the comprehensive and illuminating address to which we have all just listened, many of its observations apply with force to other civilized countries which, as we have just been reminded, have, to their own cost, too often neglected the conservation and development of forestry as one of their chief natural resources. Until I heard Mr. Lodge's instructive remarks, my knowledge of Madras forestry was naturally almost entirely administrative and partly gained from the valuable report of the Committee which has recently completed its labours, but, I can now at least claim to understand something of the need of scientific instruction within the reach of the men in the Forest Service of this Presidency, instead of sending them to learn their first lessons in forest work in strange forests under different conditions. The buildings of which I am about to lay the foundation stone will therefore, I trust, be worthy not only of this town and district, but of the whole Presidency, and send forth from their gates at the end of each course, a body of men whose training has given them not only a real grasp of the principles of forest conservancy, but also practical experience of forest work. Before I lay this stone let me congratulate the Madras Forest Department on their now being assured of a thoroughly efficient and properly equipped training College. I trust that this establishment and its work may be appreciated by all who have an interest in the conservation and development of forestry in this Presidency including those whom Mr. Lodge has mentioned, especially Zamindars and the owners of land; and I wish the College itself all success in fulfilling the part marked out for it by its originators and the Government. I will only add that it is a particular pleasure to me to have the privilege of taking part in these proceedings."

The College was visited by the Hon'ble Sir John Atkinson, K.C.S.I., in July 1912, and by Mr. Beadon Bryant, C.S.I., Inspector-General of Forests in January 1913.

From March 7th till April 4th while the Principal was incapacitated by illness the Senior Provincial Instructor, Mr. Subramania Iyer was in charge of the College.

From April 4th—17th Mr. A. Wimbush, Deputy Conservator of Forests, officiated as Principal until Mr. Cowley-Brown's return.

On the 5th May Mr. C. Sreenivasa Rao (Lecturer in Botany) was relieved of the duties of Curator of the Gass Museum and was appointed III Provincial Instructor. At the end of June Mr. Wimbush was added to the College Staff as Imperial Instructor.

*The Planting work at the New Site.*—The work of planting the wind belt along the western Boundary of the College property was taken up in July 1912 completed by September 1913. The planting was done mostly by the College students on Saturdays during the Head-quarters terms.

A nursery was established to raise seedlings required for the wind belt and for the avenues on the College Site, besides those that were obtained originally, from the Gass Museum Garden. The total length of avenue (exclusive of wind belt) already planted or to be planted is roughly 3 miles.

Reference has been made to Gass Forest Museum—an institute now of Historical interest as being the first external manifestation of the professional energy, centred at Coimbatore, that has since found expression in the creation of the Madras Forest College, of which the Museum will in future form an essential and integral feature. An Historical record of the Museum compiled by Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao (Provincial Instructor at the College and formerly Curator of the Museum) has therefore been added as appendix to this History.

On June 27th and 28th 1913 was held the first meeting of the Board of Visitors under the Presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. W. O. Horne, C.S.I., with Messrs. A. W. Lushington, Lodge, Battie and Bryant as members. Some thirty points were raised by the Principal. The resolutions of the Board were submitted by the Forest Commissioner to Government who passed the following orders on the more important of the subjects discussed.

The College course was extended from 21 months to 2 years (including 1 month recess for the Junior students.)

The terms were rearranged as follows :—

August—October—*Rains term at Head-quarters.*

November—February—*Cold weather tour.*

March—*Spring Term at Head-quarters.*

April—May—*Hill tour.*

June—*Summer term at Head-quarters.*

July—*Recess.*

The modification to take effect from August 1914.

The syllabus was also rearranged : Zoology was omitted : First Aid added : and the marks were re-alloted to the different branches—500 instead of 300 being assigned as "Grace Marks" at the discretion of the Principal.

A College Uniform was prescribed.

A College Calendar was sanctioned.

The appointment of a second Imperial Instructor was approved and recommended to the Secretary of State.

A second Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Havildar, Lascar, etc., were sanctioned : also suitable Lodges at the College Gates and various additions and improvements to the new Buildings.

## THE ATHLETIC CLUB.

### *July 1912—March 1913.*

During the year the Athletic Club was organised and under the rules passed by the Committee a College Blazer was adopted. A system was also instituted of College Colours to be awarded only to those who reached a definite standard of excellence.

The Club was started in July 1912 when the College was opened with an initial fund of Rs. 36-5-4, the balance of amount of the games funds of the old Deputy Ranger's School at Coimbatore, made over in the name of the Principal. A half-yearly subscription of Rs. 2 was collected from the students. Money was chiefly spent in the purchase of games materials for Cricket, Football, Badminton and Ping Pong. A donotion of Rs. 25 was made to the Y. M. C. A. towards opening an additional Tennis Court in that compound to provide facilities for students to play at Tennis. Students interested in Tennis joined private Clubs for want of a College Court.

Only one match in cricket was played on 28-4-12 with the Agricultural College. The Forest College was defeated.

A Marathon race run in December 1912 between Nedungayam and Nilambur in Malabar District was won by C. G. Ganapathy, S. T. Cross being second.

By an arrangement with the Coimbatore Club, News-papers were procured at cheap rates and placed in the College Reading Room for the use of the students.

## *1913-1914.*

The new entry, consisting of 17 Government, 3 Mysore State, 4 Travancore State, and 9 Private students, joined on the 1st July. No stipendiary studentships were granted.

The members of the incoming Junior Division were accomodated in the old Taluk Cutchery, which was finally and after strong opposition regained for the Department only a few days before the required date, and speedily modified and furnished by Mr. Venkataramana Iyer.

Owing to the numbers having doubled life in the College became and in every way more strenuous. Double courses of lectures were organised, compulsory games twice a week instituted, and practice for the Athletic sports was commenced.

On August 18th Mr. Cowley Brown was compelled by ill-health to take 6 months leave, Mr. R. D. Richmond, Deputy Conservator of Forests, being appointed to hold the post of Principal during Mr. Cowley-Brown's absence.

The following abstract from the Administration Report for 1913-1914 gives the nature and extent of the Cold Weather Tour :—

The Junior Division during the Cold Weather Tour camped at Mount Stuart, Nilambur, Nedungayam, Bolampatti and Mundunthurai while the Senior Division proceeded to Polur, Chittoor, Kodur, Koduvengamabhavi, Adoni, Kuppagal, Ramandrug, Tornegal, Chelama, Gadigundam, Gundalabrahmeswaram, Diguvametta, Waltair, Russelkonda, Bolampatti, Salem, (Shevaroys) Pennagaram, Hogayanakal, Anchetti, Denkannikotah and Jowlagiri. Besides general inspections and practical instruction in Forestry and Botany the specific projects and operations on Tour consisted of:—

(1) Marking permanent Sample Plots (to be annually checked and remeasured by the students) in many Divisions, Valuation Surveys, the detailed study of the most advanced teak, Red Sanders and Sandal Forests reboisement, Sandal Distilling, Fire Protection Work, Timber Depots, Charcoal Burning, Hay Pressing, Ropeway, Saw Mills, Line Cutting in heavy jungle, Preparation of Working Plan, Botanical collections, Transport of Timber by Elephants, various systems of harnessing elephants, Survey of Coupes, Survey of permanent camps, Map Reading, Demarcation, Ghat tracing, Road construction, Road traces, alignment and contsruction of tramway, estimating in all its branches, terracing, and cantour alignment, Bridge Building, blasting and improvement of river bed, Quarrying, Detailed Examination of Engineering apparatus, Tile making & Rafting.

The Junior students took a prominent part in the operations connected with the capture of a wild Elephant at Mount Stuart.

During the Senior Division Tour in Cuddapah a prize for the best essay on Red sanders kindly offered by Mr. Whitehead, Deputy Conservator of Forests, was won by student C. S. King.

All definite results and measurements were carefully recorded with diagrams, sketches, plans, etc., in the bound volumes comprising the Tour Journals of the Instructors and in the College Sample Plot Registers. Copies of such records were supplied to District Forest Officers whenever necessary.

The Senior Division Tour was undoubtedly expensive and somewhat exhausting, but the opportuniy of visiting the cream of the Forests of the Presidency was certainly of the highest professional advantage to the students.

Both Divisions were present at the Walayar Elephant sale and were also, under Mr. Richmond's orders, in camp together at Bolampatti. This combined camp was found to be in every way beneficial and will be permanently retained in the Touring Programme. The camp was visited by the Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. Carr, President of the Board of Visitors.

The object of all operations on Tour has been to combine the maximum of practical utility to the Forest Districts visited as is compatible with the instructional requirements of the students concerned. During the Head-quarter terms both Divisions were given practical work, Survey, Engineering and Planting at the New College site every Saturday. A large number of Engineering models (Bridges, etc.) were added to the College stock. These will be of great utility for the Practical Bridging course at the College site.

In January Mr. F. A. Lodge vacated his seat on the Board of Visitors to take up the appointment of Conservator of Forests (now Inspector-General) in Hyderabad State.

The Divisions returned to Head-quarters at the end of February when Mr. Richmond handed over to Mr. Cowley-Brown the Office of Principal and proceeded on leave.

During Mr. Richmond's tenure much valuable experience was gained and several desirable innovations—such as Tour Journals, Botanical Collections, etc., were introduced. But the strain of running two divisions with only one Imperial Instructor was admittedly too heavy to secure the highest efficiency in the training.

The Secretary of State's sanction to the grant of Deputation allowances for Principal, and Instructors, both of which were asked for in January 1913, was accorded to the former in August 1913 and to the latter in January 1914.

During this term Government passed orders authorizing the Principal to allot in future between Government and Native State and private students the total number of Studentships available—the maximum number of students admitted in any one year bieng limited to about 34.

The Final Examinations, the second meeting of the Board of Visitors [consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. Carr, (President), and Messrs. A. W. Lushington, Battie, Bryant, and McCarthy (Members)], and the Prize day were held in the latter half of March 1914.

Proposals on the following matters, among many others, were submitted to the Board: material alterations in the College terms and touring, raising the subsistance and Travelling allowances of Students, Reservation of the College Site, admission of Students from Hyderabad and Ceylon, the disciplinary position of the College Medical Officers, additional powers for Instructors, raising of the status of the Office, eligibility of Junior Division Students to candidature for the Provincial Service, award of Gold Medals, preparation of College Text Books, additional permanent camps at Bolampatti and Mamandur. It was agreed that as a rule a student removed from the College by the Principal should if a probationer be no longer retained in the service.

The following extracts from the newspaper accounts of this Prize Day Function give a fair resume of the work and life at the College.

"The Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. Carr, Commissioner of Forests presided, and Mrs. Lodge, wife of the permanent Conservator of Forests Western Circle, distributed the prizes and Certificates, she having come specially from Madras for the purpose with her daughter. Among the assembly were the four Conservators of Forests, Messrs. Battie, Lushington, McCarthy and Bryant, the District Forest Officers in Coimbatore, Mr. F. R. Hemingway the Collector, Mr. Parnell of the Agricultural College, Major Long, I.M.S., the District Surgeon, Mr. J. T. W. Filson, Mr. V. Subramania Ayyar the Conservator elect of the Travancore State, Mr. M. G. Arogyaswami Pillai the Municipal Chairman, the Rev. W. J. Hatch and many others.

## THE REPORT.

Mr. F. L. C. Cowley-Brown, the Principal, read the following report:—

"Mr. President, Members of the Board of Visitors, Ladies and Gentlemen:—This occasion is an historic one in the annals of the Madras Forest Department. 21 months ago when I addressed the present Senior Division on their joining the College I told them that we were on the eve of a great experiment—

and I might truly have added on the eve of a *great adventure* for we were about to embark on the task of refuting a myth-hoary from long established tradition and I make bold to say a myth founded on prejudice; the myth *was*, and I use the past tense advisedly, that there was something inherent in the environment of Madras that effectually prevented its own Rangers from being trained in the Presidency. I told the students that it was up to them to expose the fallacy of this tradition—they could rely upon the whole-hearted devotion of the Staff selected for the College—but the greater part of the task depended upon the students themselves—and the solution of the problem was contained in that little word *try*; that is really the alpha and omega of their course here—to learn to try their best: whether they gain the prize or not is of infinitely less importance than whether they have acquired the power of putting their best energies into whatever they were called upon to do. Well Ladies and Gentlemen, we have now reached the end of first stage of our task—we are about to send out to the Department the first Senior Division that has been trained at the College—and to this extent I think we can claim success for I can confidently say, that I believe we are giving the Department a division of tryers. If you will pardon shop for a moment I would liken them to the mature Periodic Block under the Uniform Method—for they are veritably the survival of the fittest in the struggle for existence—from one cause or another there have been many casualities, some have fallen by the wayside—and some the thorns of a high standard of efficiency have sprung up and chocked. A most promising student Cross died, I regret, to say from enteric. We could ill-spare him.

"With regard to the students passing out to-day the Examiners report that the men are well grounded but that they vary very considerably in their capacity to do themselves justice, especially in the orals. I must explain at once that these men were not picked for their brains and several of them are no longer saplings certainly not old standards yet but still I hope dominant growth—though I trust not aggressively dominating young tress. And therefore we have tempered justice with mercy. But in future men *will* be to a large extent be selected for their intellectual capacity and therefore they may anticipate certainly strict justice but it would be at least temerity on their part to rely too largely on the other commodity. It has been consistently dinned into the student that the adaptability to environment is one of the most important lessons to be learned from nature—and that their own future environment is not likely to be an easy one—well certainly with that end in view they have had an admirable training up to date, for they have been by no means over-comfortable either in head-quarters or in camp. This was inevitable. When I arrived in June 1912 there were ready for us the Old Municipal Hospital, some benches and a considerable stock of books and instruments. For these as also for a great deal of unobtrusive but none the less solid spade work we owe a heavy debt to Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E., now Conservator of Forests in Hyderabad Mr. C. E. C. Fischer, Deputy Conservator of Forests and Mr. V. Subramania Ayyar, the Senior Provincial Instructor of the College.

"We had to hire and furnish a Hostel, make all sanitary arrangements, and generally to evolve order out of—well good intentions. On our tours we had to contend with our own lack of experience, difficulties of transport, long days, the idiosyncracies of Railway companies, the lethargy of our surroundings, and at times somewhat severe sickness. But I never heard a complaint from a student and Ladies and Gentlemen, that I think is a fine record. If the students have acquired nothing else at the College at least they have learnt to make the best of Fate and to take the rough with the smooth, and their cheerful courage has been a great help to me, hardly less so than the unceasing assistance and support so freely tendered by Mr. F. A. Lodge in all cases of difficulty and doubt. The College has always been very near to his heart and I am sure I am voicing the thoughts of all present here to-day when I say how gladly we welcome the presence of Mrs. Lodge, and how deeply we appreciate the honour she has conferred on the College by acceding to the request to distribute the Prizes and Certificates.

"To the staff in general I would accord a tribute of gratitude for their unswerving loyalty and devotion to duty. On Mr. Wimbush has fallen the onus of running the Athletics and games and the prowess of our teams with a large percentage of wins over losses is an eloquent testimony of the time and energy he has devoted to this cause. To Mr. Richmond who acted for me I can only say that his policy was my policy. I could not have wished for a more efficient and admirable locum tenens, and his practical help in and support of the Athletics contributed in no small measure to the success of this Department of the College. That it is recognised as a very important section of the College is evidenced by the very material assistance afforded by Government who besides providing a Cricket ground and Pavilion have sanctioned a grant for equipment and a substantial annual subsidy to the Athletic Club. I would like to add here that I shall always be glad to see the Provincial Members of the Staff taking an active interest in the Club.

"I regret keenly that Mr. Subramania Ayyar is leaving us—we may take it as a compliment to the College that he has been called to the high position of Conservator and I can only congratulate Travancore on our loss (Cheers). Without his unceasing solicitude and admirable tact we should many a time have been in a tight place. Of the other Members of the Staff I would single out Messrs. Venkataramana Ayyar and Srinivasa Rao for their unstinted zeal and enthusiasm. I would like to take this opportunity of conveying to the Forest Divisional Officers in whose charges we have toured, our warm appreciation of the trouble they have taken to make us as much at our ease and as comfortable as circumstances would permit. To Major Long we are much indebted for giving up his valuable time to examining the Students in First Aid. He has also kindly drawn up a scheme of instruction in this important subject for future years.

"Staff and Students alike, we owe much to the Board of Visitors who have so consistently worked for the advantage and welfare of the College and its inmates to the lasting future benefit of the Department.

*Honours Certificates* :—S. Chinadurai, R. E. Lemos and B. V. Nagaraja Iyer.

*Campbell Walker prize* for the Student likely to make the best Ranger from all points of view—C. S. King.

~~Prize for~~ *Brasier Prize* :—The best practical out door Ranger—C. G. Ganapathy.

Prize for *The Best Second Year Student* :—S. Chinadorai.

" " *The Best 2nd Year Student in Forestry* :—R. E. Lemos.

" " *The Best 2nd Year Student in Botany* :—N. K. Sarma.

" " *The Best 2nd Year Student in Forest Engineering* :—R. E. Lemos.

*Higher Standard Certificates* :—Sarma, Karunakaran Nambiar, Thammiah, Nicholas, Varadakrishnamachari, King, Ramakrishniah, Chidambara Ayyar, Sundaravaradachari, Razvi, Ramalingam, Taylor, Ansep, Krishnaswami Rao, Krishna Rao, Krishna and Narayana Ayyar.

*Lower Standard Certificates* :—Kanakiah, Ganapathy and Ghatala.

I am glad to be able to announce that the Indian Forester has kindly offered a prize value of Rs. 50 for a subject to be selected by the Principal. This will be given effect to from the next College year. I may add that if any philanthropic member of Society is desirous of adding to the prize list at any time—there is plenty of scope left in the various subjects of the curriculum as yet unrequited; save by the consciousness of merit—details on application. Certainly our future is bright—they are rearing for us yonder a palace and it is for you Students to demonstrate that though it is on black cotton soil yet it will not be a house on the sands but rather a stately edifice founded on the bed rock of perseverance and devotion to duty.

Ladies and Gentlemen—I will weary you no longer but before I sit down I would plead to you for your good wishes for the success of the *Great Adventure*."

Mrs. Lodge then distributed the Prizes and Certificates.

## HON'BLE MR. CARR'S SPEECH.

The Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. Carr, I.C.S., then rose amidst cheers and delivered the following speech :—

"Mr. Cowley-Brown, Ladies and Gentlemen,—We have just heard from the lips of the Principal in his forcible and graphic style that the occasion on which we are met this evening is a historic one in the annals of the Madras Forest Department. We have seen the Certificates and Prizes given to the first batch of Forest Rangers ever trained in the Madras Forest College, and I may say in the Madras Presidency. This is indeed a historic event. It was I think, six years ago that Mr. F. A. Lodge (who is still the permanent Conservator of Forests here though he has been removed to a sphere of perhaps greater activity under His Highness the Nizam's Government) brought to notice that the growing needs of the Forest Department in South India made it absolutely neccessary to have a local College for the training of the South Indian Ranger. Mr. Lodge urged his idea very strongly upon the authorities, and we are to-day, if I may use a forest term, at the end of the "first-rotation." of Mr. Lodge's "Working Plan." I join with Mr. Cowley-Brown in welcoming Mrs. Lodge to our midst this evening. (Cheers).

"I have no doubt that when the history of the Madras Forest Department comes to be written the name of Mr. Lodge will occupy a high place as the pioneer and the protagonist of the Madras Forest College.

### NEED FOR THE COLLEGE.

"Coimbatore had for many years boasted of a Forest School, where the subordinates of the Department were trained, but those who desired to get a Ranger's Certificate had to go to far away Dehra Dun. I do not wish to say one word against the Imperial Forest College; in fact we are all grateful to it, and we still have to send for training there all those who aspire to the Provincial Service, and we have now in the Ranger's Grades many good men and true who have been trained at Dehra Dun. But the disadvantages of that Institution to the Madras student are obvious. Dehra Dun is to a native of the South practically a foreign country; he goes amidst strange people and strange tongues to a strange climate, which is far more akin to the climate of England than to the climate of Madras. His practical training is in forests which are quite unlike the tropical forests of the South. Thus, though our Rangers may there learn much of the theory of their work, they can never learn the practical working of a tropical forest. Add to this the fact that the Dehra Dun College was not able to take even a dozen students from Mrdras. It is thus perfectly clear that Mr. Lodge's idea of starting a Forest College was irresistible.

### A RESEARCH INSTITUTE WANTED.

"The force of Mr. Lodge's argument gained additional strength by the presence in Coimbatore for a short time of the Inspector-General of Forests with the Government of India, who placed it on record that in his opinion every local Government ought to have a local Training College for its Rangers and ought also to have an Institute for Forest Research. We have in Madras realized the first of these ideals, and it is my earnest hope that before long we shall realize the second also. (Cheers). Forest research means the investigation of questions of Forest Economy, to find out how the produce of our forests may be best utilized and how we can improve the productive capacity of our forests. For all these we do need a Forest Research Institute."

For the month of April 1914 the Junior Division was absent from the College on recess, and rejoined at Ootacamund on the 30th of that month in the same temporary quarters occupied the previous Hot Weather. During the recess Mr. Subramania Iyer left the staff to take up the appointment of Conservator of Forests in Travancore State. In May and June an interesting and instructive Hill Tour Programme was carried out. In addition to various miscellaneous operations such as valuation Surveys and charcoal manufacture, a Working Plan was prepared, the site for the permanent camp was surveyed, the boundary of a

Reserve was checked on the ground and corrected on the plan. Exotics and Shola trees were studied botanically, and a considerable number of well known trees, that had been measured in former years by other Officers, were remeasured and accurately recorded.

In Coonoor where the College halted for a few days on its way back to Head-quarters, trees measured several years ago were identified and re-measured ; and two particularly instructive days were spent at Sim's Park and Coonoor Peak. A measurement register was instituted. This should prove a record of interest and value to the Department generally. The Division benefited in every way by this Hill Tour. The weather was propitious and very little time was occupied with lectures in camp. On most days the students were out in the Forest from early morning till the afternoon. As has been the case elsewhere the camp, owing to additional experience gained, was more comfortable than that of last year, and the average health was much more satisfactory.

The students were visited by the Forest Commissioner and Mr. Lodge, C.I.E., who showed his unabated interest in the College by endowing an annual Prize for Engineering.

During this term Mr. Wimbush was transferred to Dehra Dun as Instructor and Mr. C. B. Dawson, Deputy Conservator of Forests was appointed to the vacancy.

For a portion of the Hill Tour Mr. Longrigg, Assistant Conservator was attached to the Staff.

*The summer term July at Head-Quarters.*—Passed without incident. The Final Examinations in Physics and Mathematics were held. The Division in residence automatically migrated to the Senior Hostel. Mr. J. A. Aranha, (Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests) joined the Staff as Instructor. The Committee of The Athletic Club passed some important resolutions, limiting compulsory games to Hockey for the majority and Tennis for the remaining few, placing the audit of the accounts upon a more satisfactory basis, and modifying the design for colours.

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D., accompanied by the Principal and the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, made a formal inspection of the new College at the close of this term.

The Athletic Record for 1913–14 is a very satisfactory one. The sports were held in September 1913. Owing to the financial straits of the Club it was found necessary to appeal to the generosity of officers of the service, whose response was spontaneous and liberal. The following were the winners of events :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Lemos, R. E. | 100 yards. |
| Chennigaroyan | 1 mile. |
| R. E. Lemos | High Jump. |
| Muhamad Sheriff | ¼ mile. |
| Do. | Hurdles. |
| J. A. P. D'Cruz | Long Jump. |
| Chennigaroyan | Half mile. |

The Seniors Marathon Race was run in February, the course being from Denkannikotah to Jowlagiri in Salem North Division about 12 miles across country. Ganapathy again won, Ramakrishniah being second.

The Juniors Race was held at Mount Stuart during the previous October : perhaps too early in the season and over too short a course. Kandan was the winner with Sheriff second.

In Cricket under the Captaincy of Taylor 11 matches were played of which 6 were won.

Foot Ball (Sundaravaradachari Captain) 3 matches were won, 2 drawn and 2 lost.

Hockey (E. H. Roze Captain) 10 matches played: 4 won, 3 drawn, 3 lost.

At Badminton the College beat Coimbatore College—the only match played.

Three Tennis matches were played—all of which were won.

During the year the following colours were awarded :—

*Cricket* :—Ganapathy, Taylor, J. A. P. D'Cruz.

*Foot Ball* :—Sundaravaradachari, Taylor, Ganapathy, J. A. P. D'Cruz, Sheriff.

*Hockey*:—Ganapathy, Taylor, King, Thammiah, J. A. P. D'Cruz, Sheriff.

*Tennis* :—L. R. Narayana Iyer.

*Athletic Sports* :—R. E. Lemos.

The open championship cup presented to the College by Mr. R. D. Richmond was won by R. E. Lemos.

## RAINS' TERM 1914.

Thirty four students were nominated to join the College on 1st August to form the new Junior Division, consisting of 22 Government students, 2 State students from Mysore, 4 State students from Travancore, 1 from Cochin and 5 non-stipendiary Private students. Two students failed to join, and one student within the first week was removed as he was unwilling to continue the course. In his place a Government student was selected from the Central Circle.

There were thus at the beginning of the Term 32 Junior students plus 29 members of the Senior Division.

The work of the term proceeded with steady progress, and the administration greatly benefited by the routine that had now succeeded the era of Experiment unavoidable for the first two years of the College Life.

The Principal's Standing Orders were consolidated to form the Internal Regulations of the College, the rules of the Athletic Club were printed, and the History of the College and Gass Museum (the latter compiled by Mr. Srinivasa Rao) were prepared for the press.

A full touring programme for the cold weather was issued, and a detailed allocation of marks for each Examination and Tour subject war for the whole course was published. These, it is considered will form a permanent basis of working for some years to come.

Sanction for a second Imperial Instructor was received this term, and as a consequence a Principal's Bungalow was added to the list of sanctioned works at the New Site.

The President of the Board of Visitors and the Hon'ble Member of Council in charge of Forests visited the students at Field Work on the 26th September and 20th October respectively.

From the 24th August to 3rd September the Junior Division camped at Sadivayal (Bolampatti) with the Principal and Mr. Aranha.

A most instructive and thoroughly practical ten days were spent. The students—many of them for the first time—saw the actual subjects that had been lectured on during the previous three weeks. There is no doubt that a short tour at this early stage of their course is of the utmost benefit. The Bolampatti Valley affords demonstration in nearly all branches of Forestry and it is doubtful if it will be necessary to go far afield in future to visit ordinary types of Sylvicultural problems. In the College tour journal reference has been made to the excessive charges demanded for the erection of the camp—an evil that must be combated at the outset.

In October the Principal selected six non-stipendiary Private students and allotted Government and State studentships as follows :—

| | NO. |
|---|---|
| Northern Circle Madras Presidency | 4 |
| Central Circle | 5 |
| Southern Circle | 5 |
| Western Circle | 5 |
| Coorg | 1 |
| Travancore | 3 |

One applicant for a private studentship, who sent up a Leaving Certificate containing false entries, was declared to be permanently debarred from entering the College. Applications received from Baroda and Ceylon were rejected by

Government as lying outside the normal scope of the College. Three vacancies were temporarily left unfilled.

The stock of the College was very carefully checked in October, and steps taken to counteract several irregularities that had gradually crept in.

The Periodical examinations were held during the last week of October. After the first two days of the examination five students were summoned to join their Volunteer Regiment that had been detailed to garrison Wellington—perhaps the first instance on record of Forest Officers being called upon to serve their country on garrison duty.

The Staff and students contributed in August Rs. 1,311 to the Imperial Relief Fund.

During this term the supply of a large number of Scientific Periodicals was accorded by Government. Many books for the Library were also received from Mrs. A. W. Lushington, Messrs. Moberly, Fischer, Cox and Battie. Mr. Battie also presented a very fine collection of 114 Heads and sporting trophies.

The touring arrangements were now placed directly under Officers in charge of Divisions, with independent administrative powers for the carrying out of all details of transport and camping.

The Athletic Club received a further stimulus this term—thanks to the satisfactory annual subsidy sanctioned by Government.

The following matches were played :—

| | WON. | DRAWN. | LOST. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hockey ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Football ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Cricket ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Tennis ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 1 | 2 |

The teams were very successful at the beginning of the season but undoubtedly fell off towards the close—probably from staleness. It was also a distinct handicap that this term no Instructor was available for practical coaching. The Junior Division beat the Seniors at Hockey and drew in the Inter Division football match.

Steps were taken to found an Inter-Club Hockey Challenge cup for Coimbatore. The Athletic Sports were held in the Coronation Park on October 10th and were a great success—particularly as an opportunity for cementing the link between the Past and the Present. Eight old students attended and beat the College team in the Tug of war. J.A.P.D' Cruz won the championship Cup. The success of the sports was in great measure due to the energy and zeal of Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao with the co-operation of the other members of the Staff.

The following new Colours were awarded this term.—

*Hockey.*—Ashe, Sundararaja Rao, Ambu.
*Football.*—Kora Fenn, Ashe, Varadarajan, K. G. Sreenivasa Rao.
*Tennis.*—Myers, Tammaya, Kora Fenn.
*Athletics.*—D'Cruz.

## COLD WEATHER TOUR 1914–15.

The Senior division visited Walayar (Central Coimbatore), Chittoor, Kodivengamabhavi and Kodur (Cudappah District), Mamandur (Chittoor), Bolampatti (Central Coimbatore), Yercaud, Noganur and Jowlagiri (Salem North).

The Junior division camped at Nilambur, Nedangayam (South Malabar) Mount Stuart (South Coimbatore), Bolampatti (Central Coimbatore) Trichinopoly and Mundanthorai (Tinnevelly Division). The operations carried out did not differ greatly from those executed in previous years. A fine Irish Bridge was constructed at Kodivengamabhavi and useful river training was undertaken at Bolampatti. The Sylvicultural work included sample plots and markings for thinnings and retention of standards.

The Bolampatti camp consisted of both Divisions and as previously benefit was derived from both Divisions being together. The final survey Examination of the Senior Division was held here—each student being given 3 coolies and an independent area to Survey. The Junior Division made an enjoyable and instructive excursion to Muthukulam.

The visit of the Senior Division to Yercaud was less profitable than had been anticipated, and might be dispensed with in future years. At Noganur this division (divided into parties) made a working plan. The Junior Division derived distinct profits from the tour to the Padugais near Trichinopoly, where St. Joseph's College Industrial School was also visited with advantage. At Calicut they paid an instructive visit to the Oil and Saw Mills. During the whole of this tour special stress was laid on the relation of soil to the growth.

Experience tends to show that 6 weeks should be spent at Nilambur and Nedangayam and a month at Mount Stuart and Tekkadi.

During this term Mr. H. C. Bennett I.F.S., joined the staff as second Imperial Instructor Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao then reverted to the post of Curator, Gass Museum and Science Lecturer to the College. He was engaged for the rest of the term in transferring the Museum to the New Site with the assitance of Mr. Azizuddin (former Curator) who was appointed special duty Officer under him—the Museum being placed under the charge of the Principal from the beginning of February 1915. Mr. Azizuddin's period of special duty was, at the request of the Principal, extended to 3-5-1915. Mr. Bennett took over from Mr. Dawson the charge of the College games as Vice President Athletic Club

The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. W. Gillman succeeded the Hon'ble Mr. R. C. C. Carr as President of the Board of Visitors, and Mr. S. Cox joined the Board as acting Conservator *vice* Mr. H. B. Bryant proceeding on leave. Several important measures were initiated this term: the Storekeeper's office was entirely separated from that of the Principal and rules of office procedure was drawn up; an additional clerk was temporarily added: a strong case for a Manager and for an increase of pay to the Principal's tour clerk was submitted to the Forest Commissioner. The College Calendar was prepared and sent to the Printers: the Principal's Standing Orders, the History of the College and Museum, the table of the allotment of marks per subject term war and the Principal's Memorandum on camp administration were printed and a report was made to Government on the sum required from Native States as stipend and Travelling Allowance of Students.

Athletics were necessarily confined, by reason of continuous touring, to the Marathon Race which was run at Bolampatti camp on 16-1-1915. The course was about 7 miles and included hilly and rough ground. A. K. Kandan was the winner by some 300 yards in the satisfactory time of 57½ minutes.

Five prizes were offered by the staff and were won by—

1. A. K. Kandan, (Gold Medal).
2. M. Mahomed Sheriff,
3. Y. S Chennigaraya,
4. C. T. Thiruvengadam,
5. K. C. Joseph.

(Nos. 2–5: Silver Cups.)

Nearly the whole of the Students present in camp (some 60 in number) with the exception of one sick man competed.

Spring term 1915 (March). Owing to the heat the College Lectures were given in the morning only from 7 till 12-15. This arrangement was found very convenient without any loss in the number of hours normally devoted to lecturing. The ordinary periodical examinations and the final First Aid examination were held at the close of the term. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer kindly arranged for one of the Assistant Surgeons to give a short "refresher" course and to conduct the Final Examination in First Aid.

Foot-ball instead of Hockey was as an experiment played this term. Of the 3 matches played all were won.

---

## HILL TOUR TERM APRIL & MAY 1915.

The Senior Division were in camp at Bandyshola about five miles above Coonoor in tents, and the Junior Division at Ootacamund in the Fernhill lines occupied during the previous two Hill Tours. The work of the Divisions may be gauged by the following extract from the Note prepared for the Board of Visitors:—

"The special *work* of the College during the Hill Tour this year has been, (in addition to the general study of the sylvicultural problems presented by the varying types of Forests visited):

SENIOR DIVISION.

"*Kargudi.*—Thinnings of degraded Forest for the District Forest Officer. Study of improvement fellings, Road system and Fire protection. Elephant lectures by the Veterinary Assistant and practical work in harnessing and management of elephants including kraals and nursery. Timber dragging and elephant capturing were also studied.

"*Bandyshola (5 miles above Coonoor).*—The alignment of 4 roads (aggregating 4 miles 5 furlongs) for the exploitation of Teneriffe. Bleak House, Coonoor peak, old Forest and Spring Field. This is the most important Engineering work the College has ever undertaken, and will enormously appreciate the value of these Forests. It was previously anticipated that the Services of the Forest Engineer would be required for the project, but the Division has proved itself equal to this ambitious task.

"*Other Engineering works Undertaken*—

(i) Preparation of contour maps of Coonoor Peak R.F. including survey of all existing and proposed roads and bridle paths.

(ii) Preparation of separate plan of roads connected with the land acquisition.

(iii) Collection of data and preparation of proposition statement for the acquisition of the land involved.

(iv) Preparation of detailed reports, estimate and specification with longitudinal and cross sections drawn to scale for all new roads aligned.

(v) Study of ground for construction of fuel slides in Coonoor Peak R.F.

(vi) Preparation of final reports, with full working details and estimate of the new roads for D.F.O., Nilgiris.

(vii) Construction of a particularly difficult piece of road along one of the proposed alignments (for demonstration purposes) and also in order to collect data for the rates proposed in the estimate.

"The following Plantations were marked for thinnings:—Newman; Eucalyptus 549 trees marked. Coonoor Peak: Frenella, Cupressus and Pinus: 10·7 acres or 1671 trees marked. Sim's park: Small Plantations of Syncarpia and Buchlandia marked.

JUNIOR DIVISION.

"Checking and rectification of the boundaries of Arambi and Cairn Hill. One compartment in Muthinad marked for thinning. Charcoal operations in Muthinad. Alignment and complete construction of a Bridle path (about 1 mile) in Cairn Hill. Thinning of Pinus Longif, Pinus Marit and Frenela. Wounding the soil for the purpose of provoking the regeneration.

"Study of the problem of Timber production of 9 new Eucalyptus species in three plantations at 6,000′, 7,000′, 8,000′. Volume measurement by calculated Form Factor for Frenela and Cupmacracarpa sample plots. Measurement of sample plots in Muthinad Reserve. Study of Eucalyptus oil distillation.

"In future years apart from general sylvicultural studies, there is ample scope for work in carrying out the prescriptions of Mr. Cox's Working plan: e.g., the checking and correction of boundaries, of enclosures, the survey alignment and cutting of compartment and Block lines, thinnings and improvement fellings, charcoal making, construction of roads and especially of slides: etc. etc.

"Botanically the students' knowledge and horizon are greatly enlarged by the opportunity of studying the Exotics and Shola trees in Situ and in Sim's park and the Government Gardens.

"The physical benefit of the hill tour scarcely needs demonstratian—the students' lead the ideal Forester's life—they have very few lectures and are out in the field from 7-30 A.M. till 4 P.M. or later in the finest of climates. At

Coimbatore they undoubtedly have to undergo a prolonged intellectual strain, and the change in their bearing and alertness by the end of the Hill Tour is most noticeable."

The students of the Junior Division were visited in the Field and in camp by the Forest Commissioner and Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E. During this term the draft Calendar was completed, proposals were submitted for strengthening the Office, for the employment of Curator as 3rd Provincial Instructor, and the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the Board of Visitors were prepared. Sanction was obtained for the employment of outside Examiners in the Major subjects. The services of the Special Duty Officer were again extended till June 30th. Preliminary preparations for the opening of the New College in August by His Excellency the Governor were completed. The date of opening was subequently postponed—partly by reason of the time required for completing the buildings and for getting the grounds in order. The appointment of a Manager for the Principal's Office though strongly supported by the Forest Commissioner was negatived by Government. The permanent Head clerk Mr. Pattabirama Ayyar was placed on sick leave and Mr. Krishnaswami Ayyangar was appointed to the acting vacancy. Under orders from the Government of India the stipend of all Government students was fixed at Rs. 50.

*The Summer Term.*—(June 1915) was occupied with a brief refresher course and by the Final Examinations. The Board of Visitors which met on June 27th, 28th, 29th and July 1st discussed some forty subjects including the Draft Calendar. The following are amongst the most important decisions arrived at :—Nilgiri tour to be reduced to one month annually for each division. Yercaud, Javadis, Cuddapah and Chittoor tours to be abolished: Mathematics to be removed from the syllabus and Science to be reduced: Principal to be given an annual allotment for the maintenance of the College Estate: One periodical examination abolished: Marks reallotted giving 500 for Range Administration and Law now combined as a Major subject: construction of Principal's Bungalow to be expedited: "Honours" Government students to be guaranteed IV Grade Rangerships: "Higher Standard" Government students to be guaranteed VI Grade Rangerships: Students to be given 15 days joining time after leaving the College: House Tutor to be granted Free quarters: Principal to be given an annual allotment for purchase of books— also power to have all College printing carried out locally: Students uniforms slightly modified in one suit: Seignorage not to be charged on timber supplied departmentally to the College. The Board regretted that it was unable to take steps to increase the understaffed establishment of the Principal's Office.

The sub-joined account of the Prize Day is taken from the Madras Mail:—

The Distribution of Prizes, Certificates and Medals was held in the Victoria Town Hall. The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. W. Gillman presided, and Mrs. McCarthy gave away the prizes.

### The Principal's Report.

Mr. Cowley-Brown, the Principal, read the Report, from which the following are extracts :—"The fifteen months that have elapsed, since I last had the pleasure of welcoming you on behalf of the Madras Forest College, have been, I am happy to say, an era of prosperity and all round progress for the College. The touring programme has been revised and restricted in area to the increased comfort and advantage of all concerned. The Gass Museum has been handed over to the College and the contents transferred to the new building, which is almost completed. There is one change that we should have relished, but circumstances have prevented its fulfilment as yet. I refer to the move to the new College, but we hope in a few weeks to find ourselves there. It will make a great difference to the comfort and therefore to the efficiency of the Students, for the present temporary make-shift quarters that we have occupied for the last three years are quite unsuited to a prolonged residence. At the new College, when all the essential buildings and works have been completed, the Students and establishment will live and work in comparative luxury, but for the disabilities of soil. We shall have what is probably the finest and best equipped Forest College

and Museum in the East, and with the assurance of an adequate Staff and establishment, there should be no limit to the potential benefits of the College to the Forests of South India.

"During the period under review the work of the College has gradually become systematised, and the era of experiment, inevitable at first has given place to a more settled routine. Standing Orders, Rules, Regulations for the allotment of marks, the College History, etc., have all been printed; the Headquarter terms and touring seasons have been clearly defined, and the responsibilities and duties of all concerned are now fixed. In Head-quarters the work is mainly theoretical, but opportunity is taken every Saturday, of practising the students in bridge building, survey and Engineering. For one half of the year, students are on tour, and undergo a very practical training. During the Hill Tour they are out in the Forests usually from 7-30. A.M., till 4-30. P.M., and have very few lectures. The most important work carried out during the past year was the alignment of several roads above Coonoor, a project that will very materially cheapen the cost of Forest produce in this locality. This is, perhaps the biggest undertaking yet undertaken by the College, and reflects great credit on the senior Engineering Instructor, Mr. K. R. Venkataramana Ayyar. Other important works were valuation surveys, marking for thinnings, improvement fellings, checking and measuring of demarcations, construction of a bridle path, and in Cuddapah District of an Irish Bridge some 200 yards in length. The aim of all tours is to carry out, if possible, projects of practical benefit to the District concerned, as well as to the students themselves. I would here like to take the opportunity of recording my indebtedness—to those District Forest Officers in whose divisions the college has toured, for the unvarying courtesy and care with which they have made such arrangements as were necessary for the camps, etc. Mr. Richmond devoted much time and trouble to the practical work of the senior division during the last Hill Tour, and very kindly not only offered a prize for the best Coonoor project, but also undertook the laborious task of correcting the plates.

"A feature of the past year has been the calling out of 5 students to serve their country for three months on military duty—first at Wellington and then at Kateri. In the latter case, they were in tents during the winter at an altitude of 5,000 ft. or 6,000 ft. I am glad to say that from the reports I received from the Commanding officer and Adjutant, I learn that they worthily upheld the good name of the college. In addition to the military service rendered by the volunteer students, the whole college showed its desire to be associated with the call on patriotism and self denial by subscribing to the Imperial Indian Relief fund a sum running well into four figures.

"The athletic side of the college is controlled by the Athletic Committee, with Mr. Bennett as *vice* President. The competition for colours is particularly keen as they are awarded only to those who have achieved a relatively high standard of proficiency. In hockey and football the college has hitherto more than held its own with neighbouring teams, but whether it will do so in future, is perhaps, rather dependent on the responsiveness of black cotton soil to treatment as an athletic ground.

"The health of the college has very greatly improved since its first year and serious sickness is now almost unknown. Sanitation is, as usual, a special feature of the college routine, and students are carefully instructed in the importance of observing ordinary precautions in camp such as boiling the drinking water, use of mosquito curtains, wearing warm coats after taking exercise, etc. The average weight of each division shows a distinct tendency to rise during its stay at the college, and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon is, I think to be congratulated on the general health of the students.

"Turning to the work of the Senior Division that passes out to-day, I learn from the reports of the Examiners that they are satisfied that the students are well grounded and carefully taught in a practical manner, and that the standard exacted is not too high. Certainly the students have been kept going at full speed, physical and mental for two years, and are perhaps as good an average as we are ever likely to get here. The Staff of the college has, as ever, shown a whole-hearted devotion to duty, irrespective of private convenience, health or

predelictions, and I cannot adequately express to them my thanks for the loyal co-operation under circumstances often of difficulty and doubt, and always of high pressure. It is now with unfeigned regret that in the name of the College I bid farewell to my colleague Mr. Venkataramana Ayyar. He has been with us, without a break or rest, since the starting of the college three years ago, and his accumulated experience and readiness of resource have at all times been ungrudgingly placed at the service of the college. His departure will be a very heavy loss.

"I am particularly glad to see some of the old students here to-day, and I have no doubt that annually a large number will, by their presence on prize day evince an interest in their alma mater. To you, old students, I would say that you cannot show your gratitude to your foster-mother in a more direct tangible and practical way than by doing your utmost to alleviate the difficulties and make things comfortable for your successors, when the college happens to be touring in your ranges. The College has done its best for you, and you will I am sure, be ready to do your best for the college. The interest taken in you by those who are connected with or are well-wishers of the college is exemplified by the large number of books given by Mrs. A. W. Lushington, Messrs. Subramania Ayyar, Cox, Fischer, Moberly, Wood and Battie. In addition Mr. Battie has generously presented a very extensive collection of trophies to the museum, and Mr. Wood among others, has given some fine heads."

(The Principal then read out the list of Honours men, Prize winners and winners of certificates.) Continuing he said :—"My task for the year is finished, but before I sit down, ladies and gentlemen, I would remind you that fifteen months ago I besought your good wishes for the success of the great adventure. The great adventure was the experiment, we had but lately undertaken, of trying to train more or less raw material into Forest Rangers in the Madras Presidency. To-day after 3 years of existence, we claim that the project is no longer an adventure, but an enterprise assured of success, for the reason that experience gained during this period, has given us a fairly clear indication of the correct lines on which a Forest College for Madras should be conducted. It is true that we have as yet issued only one set of passed students, but the reports that have reached me from the officers under whom they are working are gratifyingly satisfactory, and the division that passes out of the College to-day, as far as can be judged from the careful study of each individual over a period of 2 years, is of considerably higher average than that of the last issue. We, therefore believe that we are in a position to anticipate the future with confidence. But, students, it is on you, or at least mainly on you, and your successors, that the future reputation of the college will rest. You may rely upon it that the one aim of the Government and of the Board of Visitors is to frame the curriculum which will produce the type of Rangers best suited to the needs of South India; and if you honestly do your utmost, the ideal of the college will be attained, for we aim at only one thing to teach you to do your duty to day, for duty's sake, and not for the sake of emoluments to-morrow. In the dim ages of antiquity it, perhaps, once was the mamul of the old type of Forest subordinate to put off doing the duty till to-morrow for the sake of the emoluments to-day. We ask you to—and confidently anticipate that you are resolved to—reverse this chimera of the dark ages, and to prove the fallacy of the myth that Madras Rangers could not be trained in their own Presidency. An American once remarked :—"The man who says a thing is impossible is apt to be interrupted by somebody doing it." Students I ask you to be that somebody. You cannot do greater service to your college or to your country."

## The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. W. Gillman.

Mrs. McCarthy gave away the prizes, certificates and Medals, and the Hon'ble Mr. H. F W. Gillman then delivered the following speech :—

"I am sure every one present in this room this afternoon has been very much impressed by the report which you have heard from the Principal. Every one in this world has got his ordeals to get through, and, perhaps, some of you who are not acquainted with the facts may consider the report to be a rosy one,

but you may take it from me, that the Board of Visitors and the two very able Forest Officers, Messrs. Fischer and Richmond who assisted and supervised the Examinations are convinced that the report has done no more than justice to the College; and these Officers, I tell you, have had the opportunities of observing the character and calibre of the students by the Examinations. Because a Forest College is a different one from other Colleges it requires from the students undivided attention for a period of two years of its duration; and it is therefore, highly creditable to them that all the seniors who are passing out, except one, have managed to secure passes either in honours or by the Higher standards. I have been informed that this class of seniors is an exceptionally good one, and I certainly congratulate them heartily on the way in which they have acquitted themselves. But just as there are plenty of good fishes in the sea, so in the Forest department there are plenty of men with pretty good training; and as the selection is made with the greatest care, I am not quite convinced that the excellence of this class will not be seen in its predecessors. It is creditable to the Professors and the candidates alike that these results have been achieved, although handicapped by insufficient accommodation and unsuitable buildings in this congested town that I know too well. The Forest College buildings, as you know are almost completed, and we hope that it will be possible to occupy them from the beginning of the next year. This step will be very beneficial, as it will bring the Professors into even closer contact than now with students and make them pay a greater attention to help the students to get through. I do not wish to be misunderstood as in any way to criticise in this respect past year's administration; far from it. The Board of Visitors and I have been very much pleased with the physique and bearing of the students, especially those of the senior division. It is quite pleasing for us to meet young men like them clean and healthy in mind and body, who are prepared to undergo such hard labour as I saw them performing the other day at Ootacamund. I saw yesterday with the "Board of visitors, the senior students performing physical drill for which they were trained entirely on their own initiative, and the result was in our opinion, highly creditable.

"It is usual on occasions and meetings like this for the President to address a few words of counsel to the students who are about to leave the College. The first point that I would impress upon them is that they should remember that they are members of a service which is of the highest importance to the agricultural prosperity of India. It is an impertinent idea that Government are there to make money by the forest department, and that the officer who made the biggest surplus would get the highest pay. The objects of the Forest Administration are far higher than that. They are as you know, conservation and reservation of forests from which rivers draw their water sources, and which therefore, are essential to the well-being of agricultural India, and to work those forests not only to the benefit of the Government, but also of the people. It is a pity that there are many educated Indians who do not realise what growing forests mean, that when a tract has been denuded of its trees, the consequence will be silted tanks and barren irrigation. I have very often not only heard but read opinions held on the subject on forests that to have forests for leaf manure is beneficial; that goats do no harm, and so forth. I think you are all well aware that the usual custom in the Zemindaris is to lease out the forests for a year or a term of years. However, there are some Indians who have realised the value of forests to the country, and I may quote with appreciation the remark of the Hon'ble Mr. K. Chidambarnatha Mudaliar in his presidential address at the Trichinopoly District Conference in regard to the conservation and reafforestation. Those remarks received scant courtesy at the hands of the press. The fact remains that the people of India as a rule have yet to learn the value of forests, how to manage their village forests; and the great necessity of their co-operating with the Department in the preservation of the Forest of the country. The Government look to you, students, (who have now become Rangers) to do your best to develop and endeavour to secure harmony and co-operation between the people and the Government. It goes without saying that you must be honest. There are two other pieces of advice that I might give you. The first is:—"If you commit a mistake admit it; then you will not get into further trouble"

Secondly—" Do every piece of work in which you are engaged as well as you can". Because, if you did not, you would either have to do it again or get censured.

" Well now, before I conclude my address, I must refer with regret to the approaching departure of your Principal, Mr. Cowley-Brown. In him the Government were fortunate enough to possess an officer with all the requisite qualifications for the head of a college, and who worked heart and soul at his task (Applause). It is entirely due to his efforts that the college has obtained the high state of efficiency which it now possesses. (Applause). It is with the greatest regret, therefore, that I learned that he cannot remain on, and that circumstances are such that he has to go on promotion to a better paid—I will not say a more important-situation, and that he will leave us very soon. We are all sorry that the connection is to be severed, and I take this opportunity of thanking him for all the good work that he has done for the college (Applause) Senior students I wish you god-speed and good luck." Cheers were then given for Mrs. McCarthy, The Hon'ble Mr. Gillman, the Principal, and the Professors of the College.

*Honours men.*—T. G. Sankara Nair, R. Srikanta Pillai, P. Velayudhan Nair and T. N. Kochunni Tirumalpad.

*Higher Standard.*—J. A. P. D'Cruz, B. Punniah, N. Vijiarangam, S. Jothinayagam, E. W. Fernandez, A. Siddha Pillai, R. Alagirisami Naidu, S. Ramanujam Sesha, A. K. Kandan, P. Miranda, M. Anbu, H. Myers, B. S. Ramasami Ayyar, B. P. Tammaiya, K. Kunjukuttan Raja, C. S. Veeraraghava Ayyar, B. C. Varadarajan, M. Mahamad Sheriff, K. C. Joseph, R. Govinda Pillai, Y. S. Chennigaraya, I. John, K. S. Ramiah, T. V. Ommen.

*Lower Standard Certificate.*—T. Subba Rao.

During this term the New buildings approached completion, but much subsidiary work still remains unfinished. The Gymnasium was blown down by a local cyclone. Good progress was made with the arrangement of the exhibits in the Museum: and several additional gifts were received, amongst them a valuable metal mirror of west coast workmanship from student K. C. Joseph.

On the occasion of His Majesty's birthday Mr. Alfred Lushington, the Senior Member of the Board of Visitors, was gazetted as Companion of the Indian Empire.

## ATHLETICS.

During the Hill Tour only one Football match was played an eleven of the Juniors beat the Municipal High School, Ooty. It was possible to fix up only one hockey match owing to the Nilgiri teams being engaged in the Cordite Factory Tournament. This match was played at Lovedale against the Lawrence Memorial School and the result was the defeat of the Madras Forest College by 6 goals to O. Three students took part in a Police & Forest team cricket match against the Club at Ooty.

In the summer term only hockey and tennis were played. Four matches were played against the Police Recruits School, the Reserve Police and Stanes School (twice). The Madras Forest College beat the Recruit School and Stanes School once, and were beaten by the Reserve Police and Stanes School (once) P. Krishnan was awarded his cricket Colours.

The Rains term 1915 opened on 1st August with 36 new students for the 1915-17 course and with the 30 students of the 1914-16 course made up a total of 66 students in residence.

Mr. K. R. Venkatramanan, Extra Assistant Conservator, left the College Staff at the close of the previous College year and was replaced by Mr. E. M. Crothers, Extra Assistant Conservator.

On the afternoon of 11th September Mr. F. L. C. Cowley-Brown handed over the Principalship of the College to Mr. C. E. C. Fischer, Deputy Conservator, on promotion to the rank of Conservator.

On the 9th September Mr. Cowley-Brown was present at a farewell entertainment given by the Staff and Students at the tennis court attached to the office of the Conservator, Western Circle, which was attended by all the Forest Officers then in Coimbatore.

The junior students went into camp at Sadivayal from the 15th to the 25th August.

On the 14th October the new buildings were formally opened by His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Lord Pentland, P.C.G., G.C.I.E.

His Excellency arrived at the College at 7-45 A.M. and was met by the members of the Board of Visitors and the College Staff all of whom were introduced to His Excellency, who then inspected the guard of honour formed by the students. An address was then delivered by the Principal in the pandal erected to the north of the porch. This was followed by an address by the Executive Engineer and His Excellency's reply. Lord Pentland then opened the College. The sliding gates were fastend by a silver chain and padlock, which, together with the key, were presented to His Excellency; after removal of the chain the gates were slid back by 2 students.

His Excellency was then conducted over the College by the Superintending Engineer and Executive Engineer and the Forest Commissioner and the Principal.

Two group photographs were taken against the western wing of the College.

His Excellency planted a *Ficus Benjamina* plant between the College and the Museum on the eastern margin of the road, assisted by 2 students. The Museum was then visited and His Excellency left by the south entrance through the guard of honour formed by the students and drove away.

The following Forest Officers were present on this occasion besides the Forest Commissioner, The Hon'ble Mr. H. F. W. Gillman.

Mr. F. A. Lodge, C.I.E., Retired. Inspector-General of Forests to H. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad.

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr. P. M. Lushington, Conservator.<br>Mr. C. D. McCarthy, Conservator.<br>Mr. F. L. C. Cowley-Brown, Conservator.<br>Mr. S. Cox, Conservator. | Board of Visitors. |
| Mr. C. E. C. Fischer, Deputy Conservator of Forests.<br>Mr. C. B. Dawson, Deputy Conservator of Forests.<br>Mr. H. C. Bennett, Deputy Conservator of Forests.<br>Mr. E. M. Crothers, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests.<br>Mr. J. Aranha, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests.<br>Mr. R. B. Cornwell, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests.<br>M.R.Ry. C. Srinivasa Rao, Curator. | Staff of College. |

Mr. A. B. Jackson, Deputy Conservator of Forests.
Mr. C. M. Hodgson Do.
Mr. H. A. Latham Do.
Mr. H. F. A. Wood Do.
Mr. R. D. Richmond Do.
Mr. T. A. Whitehead Do.
Mr. C. C. Wilson Do.
Mr. R. Bourne, Assistant Conservator of Forests.
Mr. G. C. Robinson Do.
M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur M. Rama Rao Avl., Extra Deputy Conservator.
Mr. E. C. M. Mascarenhas Do.
M.R.Ry. V. Subramania Ayyar, M.A., Extra Deputy Conservator and Conservator of Forests, Travancore.

Mr. A. B. Myers, Extra Deputy Conservator.
M.R.Ry. V. Raman Menon, Avl., Extra Assistant Conservator.
M.R.Ry. K. R. Venkatramana Ayyar Do.
Mr. A. M. C. Littlewood Do.
M.R.Ry. M. Habibulla Sahib Bahadur Do.
M.R.Ry. P. Venkatramanan Do.

Messrs. Lodge and V. Subramania Ayyar were guests of the Government.

Mr. R. B. Cornwell, Extra Assistant Conservator joined the staff on the 19th October replacing Mr. J. Aranha, Probationary Extra Assistant Conservator, who was transferred to the Nilgiri District.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, ceased from lecturing in Botany and Science, under the orders of Government, from October, and finally left the College Staff on appointment as Ranger, IV grade in April 1916.

Both Divisions visited Nilambur and Nedungayam in November; the senior division then went on to Mount Stuart while the juniors remained on at Nilambur till just before the Christmas holidays. The last 2 days of the tour the latter spent at Calicut visiting oil and saw mills, tile works and the Beypore depot and plantation.

January was spent by the seniors at Walaiyar and the juniors at Mount Stuart; from these camps the Seniors proceeded to the Javadis and the Juniors to Kalakad in the Tinnevelly District for February.

A joint camp was pitched at Sadivayal in the Bolampatti Valley during March and the touring season ended with the Nilgiri camp in April, the Seniors being as usual at Bandy Shola, above Coonoor and the Juniors at Arambi in Ootacamund. The tent camp in Arambi has been found preferable to occupying quarters in Ootacamund and as a good site has been selected, this arrangement should continue in future years.

May and June were spent at Headquarters and the prize distribution took place on the 29th June, when His Excellency Lord Pentland did the College the honour of distributing the medals and certificates.

Owing to the fact that for the first time grace marks were no longer allowed to count towards the aggregate for the several certificates, only one student obtained honours. The results were as follows:—

*Honours certificate.*

C. M. Kunhiraman Nair.

*Higher standard.*

T. E. Varadachari.
T. K. Parameswaram Pillai.
Kerala Varma Tambiran.
D. Krishna Ayyangar.
C. T. Thiruvengadam.
M N. Raman Pillai.
P. A Krishnaswami Mudaliar.
S. Srinivasa Rao.
K. Kunhiroyan.
A. Swamy Kutty.
S. V. Sigbatullohi.
C. H. Ashe.
G. Devanayagam Naidu.
Korah Fenn.
Syed Manavar.
B. Sambamurthi.
A. P. Srinivasa Ayyangar.

*Lower standard.*

W. Balakrishna Mudaliar.
K Raghava Rao.
Gulam Rassool.
K. Ramachendriah.
T. S. Narayanaswami Chetty.

Six students having failed in 2 or more of the major subjects obtained no certificate.

At the Board of Visitors meeting in June 1915 certain alterations in the curriculum and in the marks allotted at examinations were effected. Botany was reduced to a minor subject and Mathematics was omitted altogether. Range Administration clubbed with Law became a major subject.

The several medals were awarded as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. C. M. Kunhiraman Nair. | 1. Best student in Senior class.<br>2. „ Forestry.<br>3. „ Survey.<br>4. For Honours.<br>5. Campbell Walker.<br>6. Lodge.<br>7. Indian Forester. |
| 2. T. E. Varadachari ... | 1. Best student in Range Administration.<br>2. „ in Engineering. |
| 3. K. Kunhiroyan ... | 1. Brazier. |
| 4. S. Ramachendra Ayyar. | 1. Best student of Junior class. |

*Health.*

The year was a bad one for health. Fever was very prevalent. One student (A. Kannappa Mudaliar) after suffering from frequently recurring bouts of fever, contracted pneumonia. His system, sapped by malaria, sank rapidly and he died on the 20th March, in spite of every care, at the Municipal Hospital, Coimbatore.

*Athletics.*

Hockey was played during the rains term. The College team entered for the Hockey tournament but was knocked out in the first round. The results of matches played were—

| *Played.* | *Won.* | *Lost.* |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | 1 | 4 |

The team was unfortunate in being deprived of one of its best players, C. S. Nanjappa, who was seriously injured in the 2nd match and was unable to play again until the year match which was the last game of the term.

The Seniors beat the Juniors by 2 goals to 0 after a very good game, in which the Juniors did most of the attacking in the first half.

C. H. Ashe was captain for hockey and K. G. Srinivasa Rao, C. S. Nanjappa and H D. Patell were awarded colours.

The athletic sports took place at the Coronation Park on the 23rd October. The Championship cup was won easily by Junior student C. S. Nanjappa with 19 points, C. H. Ashe being second with 9. Athletic colours were awarded to C. S. Nanjappa.

The Marathon race was run at Bolampatti in March over the same course as last year and was won easily by C. S. Nanjappa in 57 minutes, ½ a minute better than last year. The prizes which were presented by the staff, were won as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. C. S. Nanjappa | Gold medal. |
| 2. D. Krishna Ayyangar | Silver cup. |
| 3. M. N. Raman Pillai | Do. |
| 4. A. Srinivasa Ayyangar | Do. |
| 5. K. Thiruvenkatachar | Do. |

Football was played in May and June under the captaincy of Korah Fenn. The result of matches was:

| *Played.* | *Won.* | *Lost.* |
|---|---|---|
| 6 | 5 | 1 |

Colours were awarded to Syed Manavar and H. D. Patell.

Neither cricket nor tennis were played as College games during the year and no colours were awarded.

His Excellency Lord Pentland generously presented a silver shield for all round athletics during the year and this was won by Senior student C. H. Ashe by a narrow margin over Junior student C. S. Nanjappa.

1916-1917.

The College re-opened on 1-8-1916 with 29 students of the 1915-17 Division and 34 new studends; total 63.

During the year from one cause or another 7 students were withdrawn from the College.

Mr. Cornwell proceeded on privilege Leave from 18-11-1916 and eventually vacated his post on the Staff to join the I.A.R.O. as 2nd Lieutenant. He was succeeded by Mr. W. C. Hart Extra Asst. Conservator.

Mr. F. Cowley-Brown took over the Principalship from Mr. Fischer on 21-5-1917.

*Touring.*

*Senior Division.—September-Komattiyeri, South Vellore Forest Division.*—On the way certain students went to Bangalore voluntarily to see Dr. Coleman's Spike Experiments. The Komattiyeri camp (Sandal work) was both popular and beneficial: the open land was found very suitable for games. A halt was called at Tirupattur on the way back to examine the Sandal Depot.

*October, Head—quarters.—November-December, Mount Stuart.*—Afforded an excellent opportunity of witnessing elephant capture by pits. Part of the tram line was constructed by the Division.

*January.-Walliar.*—Fuel slide was constructed. Transition Forests studied.

*February.-Sadivayal.*—Combined camp. Working Plan prepared. Trestle bridge constructed.

*May.—Bandyshola; Coonoor.*—Final examination inS urvey (Prismatic Compass and Plane Table). Height measuring Visits to Sims Park and Wellington Depot. In Coonoor, signalling and at Mount Stuart Marathon Training took the place of games.

The change in the Touring Programme enabling halts to be made at Head-quarters between tours, proved beneficial.

*Junior Division.—September.—Anaipadi.*—Practical Sylviculture: Height-measuring instruments explained: Teak regeneration; bamboo and lantana eradication and improvement fellings studied: enumeration Surveys Hydraulic ram, Dam and Tramway studied: fresh curve for Tramway aligned. Survey of Anaipadi Enclosure. Lecture on Timber Transport by Extra Assistant Conservator in charge of the Range.

On the way back to Head-quarters halt of 5 days was made at Sethumadai: Ghat portion of new Tramway trace was visited: Standards on 5 acres of coppice-with standards were marked: ¼ acre sample plot weeded.

*12th November-18th December.—Malabar Tour.*—At Nedungayam a College Block of 100 acres was demarcated, surveyed, divided into classes, 2 stock maps prepared, stock marked for thinning, and partly felled: felled timber classified: volume calculated: light thinning; culvert construction: rafting. A practical examination, in which each student had to fell a tree, mark for thinning, calculate the volume of standing growth and answer 2 or 3 questions orally, was held.

At Nilambur the old teak plantations were studied and a visit paid to Eddivanna Rubber Estate. A river timber checking station was inspected, some blasting was done and laterite quarrying seen.

At Calicut the Kallai Saw Mills, Henke's Tile works, the Government Fish Cannery, the Forest Depot, and cocoanut tope at Feroke, the Government Soap Factory and Messrs. Dult's Oil Mills were visited.

*Tinnevelly.—Mundanthurai.—January.*—Teak coppice with standard working was studied, a weeding and enumeration was carried out in the Madras Forest College experimental plot to determine the effect of thinning of teak coppice, standards in a coppice-with-standards coupe were checked, the Kariar teak

plantation was thinned, the volume on the Madras Forest College sample plot of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre in this plantation was calculated, and a rough stone culvert was constructed. From 7th to 11th camp was moved to Kodimadi, where some students put up in the Inspection shed and others in the subordinates lines, only a few tents being taken. Here evergreen forests containing Hopea, Balanocarpus, Mesua and several other valuable species were studied and an improvement operation carried out. An attempt to trace a road to tap some valuable forest proved the scheme impracticable. A cart-road was traced to the site of the proposed rest-house. A halt of 4 or 5 days at Kodimadi is most important, for it is the only chance the students have of learning in practice how evergreen forests should be treated.

*Sadivayal.—Combined camp.—February.*—College Block of 105 acres was demarcated, surveyed, and divided into two parts according to character of soil and tree growth. A sample plot in it was opened and sandal-wood seeds sown in a small area of it in patches. Standard were marked in next year's coppice-with-standards coupe, a charcoal kiln was constructed and charcoal made, the nursery was put in order and sandal seeds sown in it; some fire-line clearing was done and a weeding and enumeration carried out in the Madras Forest College experimental plot in compartment II coupe 12 of Vellapathi Block. Some road tracing and levelling were done.

The Ootacamund camp was from 23rd April to 21st May 1917. The growth of Eucalypts and other exotics was studied, the volume of the $\frac{1}{2}$ acre sample plot of Cupresses macrocarpa at Cairn Hill was measured, and measurements were taken of the large Eucalyptus glob, trees in Aramby and Cairn Hill, the rate of growth of the different species of Eucalyptus Snowden was determined and compared, a tree analysis of Frenela was carried out, a marking for thinning was effected in Muthinad, a pucca charcoal kiln loaded, and the volume in the "Thinned" and "not thinned" plots at Muthinad were calculated. The Government Gardens were visited and a thinning and clearing of the Khasia Oaks in Government House Grounds were carried out. Government House Grounds were surveyed and 3 foot-paths traced; a coupe at Aramby was surveyed.

There were Botany excursions at all camps except Calicut, mostly on Saturday mornings.

The only camps at which the students can play games are Mundanthorai, Sadivayal and Nilambur and at the last the ground is small and uneven. At Mundanthorai and Nedungayam swimming may be indulged in.

Both Divisions attended the Elephant Sales at Walliar on October 18th.

*Library.*—During the year 107 books were added to the College Library and 19 to the Students' Library—the latter were all presented.

*College Journal.*—In the Madras Forest College Journal Mr. Fischer published a descriptive list of trees, shrubs, climbers, etc., to be found near Sadivayal, Walliar, Anaipadi, Sethumadai, Komuttiyur camps.

*Gass Museum.*—From April 1917 the Curator was placed in charge of planting operation in the College Estate. For this extra duty a deputation allowance was sanctioned by Government.

The number of visitors to the Museum during the year was 10,600 as compared with 5,000 in the previous year (visits of students and staff not included).

The contributions during the year were numerous and included:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 350 Herbarium specimens | from | Mr. M. Rama Rao |
| 126 ,, ,, | ,, | Mr. P. F. Fyson. |
| 238 ,, ,, | ,, | Mr. C. E. C. Fischer. |
| Elephant Foetus | ,, | Mr. E. C. M. Mascarenhas. |
| Bison Head | ,, | Mr. A. B. Jackson. |
| Bison Head | ,, | Mr. H. F. Wood. |
| 32 Trophies on loan. | | |
| 12 specimens of Haustoria | | Mr. P. M. Lushington. |
| 22 Photographs of Forest operations. | | |

*Board of Visitors.*—At the meeting of the Board of Visitors held on 29-6-1917 amongst numerous other resolutions the following were passed:—

(i) that the improvement of water supply requires urgent consideration :

(ii) that the marks for conduct and practical efficiency in the field should be allotted :

(iii) that in place of College Blocks in various Districts a Demonstration Forest should be laid on the College Estate :

(iv) that the temporary clerk's post should be made permanent :

(v) that 2 peons each should be sanctioned for each Provincial Instructor :

(vi) that a telephone or speaking tube should be provided for the Principal's office :

(vii) that construction of tennis courts and athletic ground should be proceeded with expeditiously :

(viii) that the Campbell Walker Prize should be increased in value :

(ix) that the fees of examiners should be raised to Rs. 150 :

(x) that the pay of the Store Keeper and Tour Clerk should be increased :

(xi) that the Principal should be deputed to Dehra Dun to visit the museum and the Research Institute there.

*Prize Day.*—At the Prize day held on Saturday June 30th Mrs. McCarthy distributed the prizes and certificates. The names of the prize winners and order of merit of the Senior Division were as follows :—

*Honours Certificates.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. S. Ramachendra Ayyar— | Winner of the Campbell Walker Prize best all round Ranger. |
| ,, | Prize offered by Govt. for the first Senior student. |
| ,, | Lodge prize for the best student in Forest Engineering. |
| ,, | Prize offered by Govt. for the best student in Forestry. |
| ,, | Prize offered by Govt. for the best student in Survey. |
| ,, | Prize offered by Govt. for the best student in Range Administration. |
| ,, | Winner of the Principal's Prize for Botany. |

*Higher Standard Certificates.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 2. K. Jayaraman ... | Government student. |
| 3. C. S. Ramanathan ... | ,, |
| 4. N. Thiruvikraman Tampi. | Winner of the Brazier Prize for the best out door Ranger—Travancore Student. |
| 5. M. R. Doraiswami ... | Government student. |
| 6. A. Manicka Mudaliar... | ,, |
| 7. S. M. Srinivasagam Pillai. | ,, |
| 8. D. E. Lewin ... | ,, |
| 9. P. Dhananjaya Rao ... | ,, |
| 10. K. Venkataramanan ... | ,, |
| 11. K. S. Ragavachar ... | Private student. |
| 12. C. Karunakara Menon. | Winner of the Indian Forester Prize for the best essay on 'Village Forests'—Government student. |
| 13. P. Karunakara Menon. | Government student. |
| 14. A. Subramani Ayyar. | ,, |
| 15 T. Paramasivan Pillai. | ,, |
| 16. L. A. Krishna Ayyar. | Travancore State student. |

17. K. V. Krishnaswami. Ayyangar — Hyderabad State student.
18. M. Rama Rao Kini. — Government student.
19. P. M. Mathew ... — Private student.
20. J. Ramlingam ... — Government student.

*Lower Standard Certificates.*

21. V. Mahadeva Ayyar. — Private student.
22. N. Kesava Pillai ... — Travancore State student.
23. K. Tiruvenkatachari. — Government student.
24. T. Balaramaswami. — Private student.
25. B. Gulam Dustagir. — Government student.
26. C. S. Nanjappa ... — Winner of the Pentland Shield for the best all round athlete, private student.
27. S. A. Dawson ... — Government student.
28. P. V. Ramana Rao ... — Private student.

The Division may be regarded as of fair and satisfactory average merit.

The following gentlemen were appointed examiners for the finals:—

1. C. M. Hodgson Esq., I.F.S.
2. H. F. A. Wood Esq., I.F.S.
3. T. Clear Esq., I.F.S.
4. F. J. Marshall Esq.,
5. M.R.Ry. K. R. Venkataramana Ayyar, E. D. C.
6. Syid Abdul Quadir Sahib Bahadur, E.A.C.
7. Lieutenant Colonel C. F. Fearnside, I.M.S.

*Extract from Principal's speech:*—The College is in the happy position of having had little or no history during the past year. Mr. Fischer has handed over the College to me in a much more efficient, satisfactory and comfortable state than it was in when I handed it over to him nearly 2 years ago. The machine now runs by routine–whereas in our early days there were many bumps and stoppages, due to the unknown nature of the path of a Forest College in Madras and to the danger of setting up inconvenient precedents that might interfere with the future work of the mechanism. But now, thanks in a great measure to Mr. Fischer's wise prevision and control, aided by the devoted labours of the staff. I think, we are in a position to assure the Board of Visitors to whose watchful supervision over the affairs of the College you students owe a great deal more than you perhaps realise—I say I think we can assure the Board that we are now in for a non-stop run without fear of accident and still less of a break down.

"To Mr. Fischer we owe the establishment of the College Journal with a student C. Karunakara Menon as the first editor.

* * * * *

"Mr. Fischer also interested himself in the question of sound and safe insurance for any students who had the wisdom to avail themselves of his advice. We are not yet free from all anxieties. Our water supply (the first essential of a College) is still very far from what we should like it to be.

* * * * *

"For the immediate future our needs may be summarised in two words Research Institute. This hoary annual crops up regularly every prize day in the spring somewhere about Budget time, it droops and raises its head no more. Here again Speramus and Government have recognised the necessity of a Research Institute as an adjunct to the Department if we are not to lose the confidence of the public and of the commercial world. Our College here is in scope and equipment rather more than is required for the training of 60 Rangers, a providential circumstance due perhaps to wise prevision.

* * * * *

"The Indian Forester prize essays were not up to the usual standard. One ~~competer~~ Competitor spoilt his chances by exceeding the prescribed length by nearly 25 per cent, an unwise device to put it mildly.

" The conduct of the College as a whole has been almost uniformly satisfactory during the past year."

* * * * *

Extract from speech of the President of the Board of Visitors (the Hon'bl Mr. Couchman).

" I think that after hearing Mr. Cowley Brown's report, you will agree with me that the result of the working of the College during the past year has been satisfactory. Out of 29 students examined, 20 obtained the Higher Certificate, 8 the Lower, and one failed. I have read the reports of examiners, and the general tenour of them is that the teaching has been good, and the students industrious. It is true that with the exception, perhaps, of Ramachendra Ayyar none of the students appear to be great geniuses, but this is more than we can command every year. The outstanding fact is that both the staff and students have done their parts well, and no one can do more.

* * * * *

" On behalf of the Madras Government, therefore, I thank the Principal, the Professors and Instructors for the good work they have done in the past year.

" In the course of my visits to the different districts, I make a point of asking the district Officers if they think that the new men we are now getting from Coimbatore, are as good as those who used to be trained at Dehra Dun, and the reply always is that they are at least as good. It is, therefore, clear that the policy of the Madras Government of having their own Provincial Forest College has been justified by the results. When the really excellent prospects which the Forest Department offers to young men become better known to the student class we may expect even more competition for seats in the College."

*Health.*—The health of the College during the year was satisfactory.

*Athletics*:—The Sports were held in the Coronation park on 21-10-1916. Competition was keen C. S. Nanjappa won the Richmond Cup (for the championship of the Athletic Sports) with 26 points. Athletic Colours were awarded to U. K. Timmayya—17 points. Hockey was played from August to December and foot-ball from January to June.

At Hockey 6 matches were played—1 win, 3 losses, 2 draws. The Junior Division beat the Senior Division after a draw and thus held the Cowley Brown Cup for the ensuing year. Nanjappa was captain of Hockey. Colours were awarded to Timmayya and J. Venugopal.

Of the 4 Footbal matches played the College lost 3 and draw 1. At the Sadivaiyal camp in February a Five-a-side Tournanment for prizes given by the Vice-President was held. All students took part.

H. D. Patell was captain of football; the following were awarded colours:— A. B. Fenn, J. Venugopal, J. S. Rowland, U. K. Timmayya and T. Balaramaswami.

Six cricket matches were played—4 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss (by 2 runs). A successful season. Nanjappa was captain of cricket. Colours were awarded to Nanjappa, M. Narasinga Rao, S. Shankara Alwa.

The Pentland Shield for the best all round athlete of the year was won by Nanjappa: Timmayya was runner up.

Neither playing Field nor Tennis Courts materialised during the year and the quality of performances naturally suffered thereby. The Board of Visitors took a strong view in the matter and pressed for early preparation of both.

The Marathon race took place on February 17th at 7 A.M. over the usual course (6 miles 5 furlongs 100 feet) during the Sadivaiyal combined camp. Senior student Nanjappa (last year's winner) won the first prize—breaking the record by 4 minutes. The other prize winners were T. Balaramaswami (Senior), U. K. Thimmayya (Junior), K. Thiruvenkatachari (Senior) and P. K. Parameswaram Pillai (Junior). It is intended to make the race an inter-division competition.

---

# HISTORY OF THE MADRAS FOREST COLLEGE, COIMBATORE FOR THE YEAR 1917-18.

The College Year commenced on 1-8-1917 with 28 students of the 1916—18 Division and 33 new students (4 from Ceylon).

During the year 5 students were withdrawn under Calendar Rule 24. Mr. Bennett left the College on 28-5-18 having been placed on special duty in connection with Aeroplane Timber. Mr. Hart vacated his appointment on 17-7-1918 and shortly afterwards was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Indian Defence Force. The vacancies were filled by Messrs. Abdul Qadir and Abdul Karim.

*Touring.*—The Touring Season commenced at the beginning of October instead of a month earlier as in the previous year. For the Periodical Examinations the students returned to Head-Quarters early in November for 10 days with light kit. This modification in the programme enabled the change between distant Camps to be effected most conveniently, and the break in Head Quarters was appreciated by all. Besides many other advantages it ensures 2 months at Head Quarters before commencing Touring—an undoubted advantage.

The tours followed much the same order as in the previous year.

A formal practice trial was held at the Sadivayal combined Camp.

The students were unable to attend the Elephant Sale as it was not held at Walliar this year.

42 Students passed in Swimming.

The thanks of the College are due to Messrs. Wood, Richmond, Barry, Bourne and Venkataramana Iyer for the trouble taken to render the touring comfortable and advantageous. The College tours necessarily cause considerable inconvenience to District Forest Officers, and although every effort is made to make some return by carrying out operations that will be of use to the District, the balance of indebtedness must always be against the College but for the eventual benefit to the Department by the production of efficient Rangers.

*Health.*—The few serious cases of illness or injury that occurred were dealt with by the Municipal Hospital. In 2 instances students sent there by reason of a foot-ball accident or for other causes subsequently developed Typhoid. The health otherwise of the College was good throughout the year.

In July 1918 the Joint Dispensary was opened and the College Sub-Assistant Surgeon was transferred to take charge of it.

At the Meeting of the Board of Visitors held on June 29th and 30th Resolutions (amongst others) were passed to the effect that :—

i. the Municipal well should be acquired and joined to the Engine House well by an adit :

ii. a windmill and pump should be obtained to work the Arboretum well :

iii. a storage tank should be constructed to collect rain water from the College roof :

iv. the mali's pay should be considerably increased :

v. marks for Botany should be raised :

vi. an Engineering Manual should be prepared by one of the College staff :

vii. the annual allotment for roads, buildings and avenues should be raised to Rs. 5,000 :

viii. the Library annual allotment should be raised to Rs. 150 :

ix. past students should be encouraged by special arrangements to attend the Prize-day—a special function being also combined with the distribution of prizes :

x. the Demonstration Forest Project was approved:

xi. 100 marks, from which mark fines should be deducted, should be allotted to conduct and efficiency.

Insert Line

The Board of Revenue and the Government have since passed orders sanctioning the above proposals.

## ~~THE GASS FOREST MUSEUM: COLLEGE AND STUDENTS' LIBRARIES.~~

## Gass Forest Museum.

During the year the Principal was deputed to Dehra Dun to study the Museums of the Research Institute. Material alterations in the arrangements of sections and exhibits have in consequence been introduced into the Gass Museum—each section being denoted by a prominent label. Models of the various sylvicultural systems will shortly be constructed at the College Carpenter's Shop; these combined with the diagrams received from Dehra and in connection with the Demonstration Forest should be of great value in appealing to the students' eye rather than to his memory. A large number of timber panels collected by Mr. A.W. Lushington, C.I.E., have been added. All Forest produce has been arranged as far as possible in botanical order to facilitate search for a particular exhibit. The characteristic bark when procurable is now affixed to each timber panel. Over 72 sample pencils of different species tried with varying success have been received from the Department of Industries. Mr. C. E. C. Fischer has again made a generous contribution (of 147 specimens) to the Herbarium. By the removal of curios, toys, etc., having little bearing on Forestry proper the Museum has been made less of a "Wonder House", and space has thereby been obtained for exhibits of greater instructional value. A considerable number of inferior trophies have been shroffed.

Creepers have been trained on to the walls of the Museum. The windows have been provided with blinds by the D.P.W. at a cost of Rs. 823.

About 12,800 people (excluding Madras Forest College students) as against 10,600 last year and 5,000 the previous year, have visited the Museum.

One of the 11 sections of the Museum Catalogue was printed, copies being supplied to many of the Forest Officers in the Presidency.

The Curator, was relieved in February of all supervision of planting operations on the Estate and is now able to concentrate on Museum work proper.

*General Library.*—154 books were added, of which 46 were presented by C. E. C. Fischer, Esq.

*Students' Library.*—The stock was increased by 55 volumes, 23 being presented by C. B. Dawson, Esq., and 18 by Mr. S. Doraisami Ayyar. A large number of magazines, etc., were sent periodically to the Military Hospitals at Secunderabad.

The Catalogues of the General and Students' Libraries were printed.

*Estate.*—Creepers and ornamental shrubs are being planted round the walls of the main building (as well as of the Museum) but their maintenance under present conditions is expensive and precarious. During the year about 1200 trees have been planted in the avenues and Arboretum and a large number of seedlings have been raised in the Nursery. More than two miles of paths have been laid out to a considerable extent by the students. An Estate and Sanitary Overseer on Rs. 25 was appointed from February 23rd.

Students' gardens have been started at the Hostels.

From March 1st the supply of dairy produce was undertaken by the Agricultural College and Farm and cattle were finally prohibited on the Estate. The result has been of marked benefit to the comfort and health of the students and to the welfare of the plants.

Towards the end of the year a provision and fuel store was opened on the Estate: this has proved a boon and economy to the residents and at the same time a financial success to the promoters.

A temporary Reading Room was arranged for at the Hostels.

## ATHLETICS.

During the year the Athletic Ground was laid down—a portion of the work being carried out by the students. Three Tennis Courts were constructed by the D.P.W. Two Badminton Courts have been prepared at the Hostels. The advantage of having grounds for foot-ball, hockey, tennis, cricket, athletics, etc., on the Estate in lieu of having to journey out to the Coronation Park to claim a debateable pitch, needs no emphasis. Under Mr. Bennett's supervision the athletics were managed with efficiency and zeal.

The season at foot-ball and Hockey was less successful than at cricket: student A. Narasinga Rao Naidu scored two centuries in consecutive matches at intervals of a week.

At foot-ball 3 matches were played with as a result: win 1, loss 1 and draw 1.

At hockey 5 matches were played with as a result: win 1, loss 2 and draw 2.

The athletic sports were held in the Police Recruit School Grounds: Mr. Richmond's Cup for the highest aggregate being won by Senior student C. B. Chengappa, who at the end of the year also gained the Pentland Shield for the championship of the College in all branches of athletics.

The Marathon Race (6½ miles hill and plain) was run over the usual Sadivayal Course: practically the whole College competed, senior student P. K. Paraweswaram Pillai being the winner; the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th prizes being gained by C. B. Chengappa, A. Narasinga Rao Naidu, C. L. Narayana Rao and B. S. Chengappa; while for the inter-division cup the Juniors defeated the Seniors.

During the year a challenge cup for the inter-division competition in the Marathon Race was presented to the College by Amir Mahomad Khan Rissaldar Major Bahadur, and the offer of Mr. C. E. C. Fischer to present a cup for Gymnastics was accepted by the Board of Visitors.

The Prize Day was celebrated on July 1st. The following were the winners of prizes and certificates.

*The Government and other prizes:—*

| | |
|---|---|
| Silver medal for Honours ... ... ... ... ... | C. Srinivasa Rao and J. S. Rowland. |
| Best Second Year student (Gold medal) ... ... ... | C. Srinivasa Rao. |
| Best Second Year student in Forestry ... ... ... | C. Srinivasa Rao. |
| Best Second Year student in Survey ... ... ... ... | J. S. Rowland. |
| Best Second Year student in Range Administration .. | S. G. Venkataramanan. |
| Principal's prize for Botany ... ... ... ... ... | C. Srinivasa Rao. |
| Campbell-walker prize for the best allround Ranger ... | C. Srinivasa Rao. |
| Lodge prize for the best student in Engineering ... ... | J. S. Rowland. |
| Brazier prize for the best Out-door Ranger ... ... | A. B. Fenn. |
| Indian Forester prize for past students ... ... ... | L. J. Taylor (1912-14.) |
| Fischer prize for Gymnastics ... ... ... ... | A. B. Fenn. |

## LIST IN ORDER OF MERIT OF CERTIFICATES AWARDED.

| Name of Student. | Name of Circle or State to which attached. |
|---|---|
| **HONOURS.** | |
| 1. C. Srinivasa Rao ... ... ... ... ... ... | Western Circle. |
| 2. J. S. Rowland ... ... ... ... ... ... | Do. |
| **M.R.H.** | |
| 3. A. B. Fenn ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | Western Circle. |
| 4. S. G. Venkataramanan ... ... ... ... ... | Southern Circle. |
| 5. B. S. Sankara Ayyar ... ... ... ... ... | Northern Circle. |
| 6. J. A. Stephen ... ... ... ... ... ... | Travancore State. |
| 7. B. B. Syid Yahia ... ... ... ... ... ... | Southern Circle. |
| 8. B. T. Sitaraman ... ... ... ... ... ... | Do. |
| 9. A. Bhaviah ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | Central Circle. |
| 10. A. Mudukrishnan ... ... ... ... ... ... | Do. |
| 11. J. Venugopal Naidu ... ... ... ... ... | Mysore State. |
| 12. C. Vasu ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | Western Circle. |
| 13. U. Timmaya ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | Coorg. |

| Name of Student. | Name of Circle or State to which attached. |
|---|---|
| 14. G. M. Bartholomewsz ... ... ... ... ... | Ceylon. |
| 15. T. Kondathu Gounden ... ... ... ... ... | Western Circle. |
| 16. P. K. Parameswaram Pillai ... ... ... ... | Travancore State. |
| 17. Abdul Azeez ... ... ... ... ... ... | Hyderabad State. |
| 18. I Sambasiva Rao Naidu ... ... ... ... ... | Northern Circle. |
| 19. K. Parthasarathy Ayyangar ... ... ... ... | Southern Circle. |
| 20. S. Sankar... lwa ... ... ... ... ... ... | Private. |
| 20. T. S. Ratnavelu Mudaliar ... ... ... ... | Northern Circle. |
| 22. C. R. Rajagopalan ... ... ... ... ... ... | Central Circle. |
| M.R. L. | |
| 23. A. Vyasalu ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | Central Circle. |
| 24. V. Ar.s.rathnam ... ... ... ... ... ... | Ceylon. |
| 25. M. Narasinga Rao Naidu ... ... ... ... ... | Northern Circle. |
| 26. Abdul Guffur ... ... ... ... ... ... | Hyderabad State. |
| 27. A. K. Anantharama Ayyar ... ... ... ... | Southern Circle. |

T. D. Ponniah of the 1917-19 Division won the Board of Visitors Gold Medal for the best 1st year student.

Messrs C. E. C. Fisher, R. D. Richmond, R. Bourne, F. J. Marshall, M. Panchapakesa Ayyar, Raman Menon, and Abdul Quadir were the Examiners for the Final Examination.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. C. A. D. McCarthy before a large audience of Forest Officers and the general public.

The features of the year's history have been perhaps, the development of the Estate, appointment of an Overseer, opening of the Carpentor's shop and Provision Stores the starting of the Demonstration Forest, Engineering Park, Arboretum, Badminton Courts, Tennis Courts, Athletic Ground, Students' Gardens, Gymnastic Course, Supply of Dairy Produce from the Agricultural College, and Compulsory instruction in Swimming.

The Demonstration Forest (78 acres) has been laid out for the purpose of affording the students practical instruction in the uniform method.

Incidentally the working of the Forest by the students will afford constant practice in the erection of cairns of all kinds, from the simplest to the most elaborate type, fire protection, volume estimation, tests of dryage and shrinkage, maintenance of control books, preparation of working plans, charcoal manufacture, line clearing, hay making, road construction, sandal culture, and the eradication of young prickly pear.

The Engineering Park for bridging, fuel slides, etc., laid out by Mr. Crothers, the 1st Engineering Instructor has already proved of marked benefit to the Senior Division. It is about to be largely extended and fitted with an angled sledge road, turn-table and sledge, derrick and shears, water-shoot, tramway, etc.

Students' Plates were for the first time bound and presented to them at the end of the course: drawings of very exceptional merit being retained and hung in the Drawing Hall.

As current events are now very fully reported in the College Magazine it has not been thought necessary to chronicle them in the History with as much detail as was formerly desirable.